

Dayan dies after heart attack

Moshe Dayan, the Israeli war hero and former Foreign Minister, died of a heart attack in hospital in Tel Aviv last night, the Government announced. He was 66. M. Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, announced through his spokesman that he had ordered a state funeral for Mr Dayan tomorrow.

Mr Dayan had been taken to hospital the previous night, suffering from chest pains and was kept under observation. Apparently he suffered another massive heart attack last night.

His swashbuckling, khaki-clad figure with a black patch covering an eye lost in Syria in 1941, became known the world over.

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Hundreds held in Egypt purge

Egypt's new Government has signalled its intention to take an even tougher line with opponents than that of the late President Sadat, by launching a fresh wave of arrests, mainly of Muslims, in the north.

Between 800 and 1,000 people are understood to have been held, while others have gone underground.

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Schools Council 'over-political'

The Schools Council is over-political and not as effective as it used to be, a review report to the Government says. But it adds that it should continue with its present functions for curriculum and examinations.

Page 3

RSC criticizes level of grant

The Royal Shakespeare Company criticized the Arts Council for giving it a smaller grant than other national theatre companies. The company said it had to charge ticket prices that deterred theatregoers, and pay its staff less.

Page 3

Brandt's plea for hungry

Herr Willy Brandt called on governments and the forthcoming Cancun north-south summit to give top priority to a global programme to end the problem of hunger. He presented a "balance sheet of horror" to the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization.

Page 6

Korchnoi scores first victory

Viktor Korchnoi, the challenger, won his first victory in the world chess championship when Anatoly Karpov, the titleholder, resigned the adjourned sixth game. Karpov now leads 3-1, with the first to win six games becoming the champion.

Page 5

94 killed in mine

Methane gas sweeping through a coalmine on Japan's northern island of Hokkaido killed 84 miners and 10 of the men trying to rescue them. There was no explosion but the men were asphyxiated.

Page 5

Laker credit

Sir Freddie Laker has been given a further 30 days credit on debts of \$12.6m owed to Eximbank, the United States Government export credit agency. Eximbank has not yet considered Laker's request for a year's rescheduling of the debt.

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Prince Andrew in nuclear war training

The Queen's second son, aged 21, has been undergoing operational training since qualifying as a helicopter pilot in April.

Page 12

Confusion over Government intentions on sale of gas showrooms

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Page 5

Gang kidnap son of millionaire

Police on both sides of the Irish border were last night hunting for the son of an Irish millionaire who was kidnapped at gunpoint near Newry, Co. Down, yesterday morning.

Page 2

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Page 1

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Page 12

Thatcher says 'We are within an ace of success'

From Julian Haviland, Political Editor, Blackpool

Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday renewed the bond between herself and the Conservative Party's active voluntary workers in a speech full of ringing conviction and empty of new ideas.

"We are winning through," she told the annual conference at Blackpool. "I will not change just to court popularity. We must rid ourselves of the idea that the laws of economic gravity can somehow be suspended in our favour."

More than 3,000 party representatives gave the Prime Minister their warmest ovation for a speech full of homely wisdom. "You can't get anything for nothing," she declared, and it takes effort to achieve success.

Addressing an overflowed meeting after her speech to the main conference, Mrs Thatcher went further. "If you believe you have the right policies you must persevere with them long enough for them to succeed. Above all, never throw in the towel when you are within an ace of success."

But her success with them was assured in advance. Mrs Thatcher was assured in advance. Mrs Thatcher was assured in advance.

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She did claim, however, that 10,000 new small businesses were starting every month and that this, together with his international firms, choosing Britain as the site for new plants, was the way to real recovery.

Certainty was reserved for what the Prime Minister would not do. She would not print money. "That way, I must tell you, lies a collapse of trust in the savings of every family; it would lead to a collapse of money and a penalty as the sole reward for thrift. That is not what this Government was elected to do."

She declared: "There are those who say our nation no longer has the stomach for the fight. I think I know our people—and I know they do."

Mrs Thatcher must now look to her base in parliament. The search among restive MPs for a candidate to oppose her for

10pc inflation target will be missed

The annual inflation rate fell slightly to 11.4 per cent in September. But Whitehall has now admitted that the Government seems certain to miss its target of getting inflation down to 10 per cent by the final quarter of the year. Prospects for reducing it to 8 per cent by spring are also poor.

Details, page 19

The leadership has gathered pace this week. A covert meeting is being arranged at Westminster, when parliament returns next week, to discuss tactics and to choose a candidate.

Support for the former cabinet minister, Mr Geoffrey Rippon, seems to be growing fast. He may be more dangerous than Mrs Thatcher supposes, and his ambitions have been aroused by the attention paid to him this week.

The rebels will not mount a challenge unless they find a candidate who can count on at least 50 votes. But any challenge would be risky for Mrs Thatcher. If it came, it would be deep enough among Tory MPs, a large number of abstentions could make her position impossible.

There was confusion yesterday over the Government's intentions on the sale of Britain's 900 gas showrooms, and ministers in Blackpool denied that deferring the action could be represented as a climb-down to the gas unions' threat to disrupt supplies in the winter.

The decision will come under serious scrutiny by Conservative backbenchers when the Commons resumes next week.

The reason for not proceeding immediately was said yesterday to be because of a lack of time in the parliamentary programme to handle the complicated legislation on safety standards for private enterprise appliances.

Mrs Sally Oppenheim, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, who has been at the forefront of the move to sell off the showrooms, has always insisted that the sale must be combined with better safety standards for private gas.

Ministers confirmed yesterday that the promised Bill to break the British Gas monopoly over North Sea gas will be in the Queen's Speech opening next month's session of Parliament. This will enable oil companies to sell their gas direct to industry, undercutting nationalized prices.

The Bill will include powers to have off the showrooms, but these will be deferred indefinitely. The powers could not be used in any case until the legislation to improve safety standards has been enacted. That will not be coming in the next session.

New pressure on the legislature has been caused by the decision to introduce a local government bill providing for referendums if local authorities wish to levy rates increases above a government-fixed ceiling.

Although ministers yesterday were saying that lack of parliamentary time had determined their decision, they had been made aware of the plan's public unpopularity since it was announced. It became an issue in the Warrington by-election, when the Tories received a humiliating vote, and it has been one of the big issues in MPs' postbags.

But Mr Nigel Lawson, the Secretary of State for Energy, will face questions from some of the right-wing Conservative MPs who expressed dismay in Blackpool yesterday.

The Office of Sir Denis Rooke, chairman of British Gas and a valuable opponent of the plans to sell off the corporation's 900, high street show-

rooms, was unusually quiet on the subject yesterday (our Business Staff writes).

A spokesman for Sir Denis said that the corporation had not been informed of any change in the Government's policy and had no plans to cash in on the plan. "I am amazed to think that Sally Oppenheim should back down on this. Our reaction is one of considerable disappointment."

Mr Terry Curry, the managing director of Curry's, a retailer with 500 shops and a discount store, said yesterday: "I was expecting something like this to happen but not so soon. Personally, I think it would be a good idea if the whole thing could be thought out again."

Leading article, page 11

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Leading article, page 11



Winning through: Mrs Thatcher receives an ovation (Photograph by Bill Warhurst.)

Kania seeks ban on strikes this winter

Warsaw, Oct. 16.—Mr Stanislaw Kania, the Polish Communist Party leader, today called for a ban on strikes as labour unrest mounted. In a speech to the party's central committee he proposed that strikes should be banned during the autumn and winter.

The Council of Ministers, meanwhile, decided to extend by two months military service for conscripts who had completed their two-year term of duty, in view of the complex internal situation and drastic economic difficulties.

Mr Kania also accused the Solidarity free trade union of paralyzing the country and ruining the economy with repeated demands and strikes.

Reports of strikes and protests poured into Warsaw today among them a letter from conscripts at the Army garrison in the south-western city of Zelenka. Girls calling for protest action against the extension of their service.

Journalists in the Communist youth daily newspaper *Straznica* threatened to use all available means to protest against the dismissal of their editor, Mr Jacek Kuron, the dissident leader.

The Government resumed talks with Solidarity in Warsaw on the catastrophic food situation after the union said it had won a pledge for a price freeze on most staple goods.

Amid the political turmoil, there were also signs of a significant split in Solidarity's Warsaw leadership.

The union's news service said the Warsaw branch would hold

new leadership elections tomorrow to resolve an internal dispute.

Mr Kania told the central committee it was time for the one million communists in Solidarity to state their allegiance.

"There is only one party and it is impossible to belong to both our party and the one which is hostile to it," he said.

He alleged that Solidarity's programme for worker self-management was aimed at removing the party from control of key appointments.

He opened the plenum with a speech in which he accused anti-communists in Solidarity of banking on an economic collapse to help their bid for power.

The committee said there could be no leniency and no concessions and called for a purge of ideologically soft party members.

Mr Kania said the party must take a share of the responsibility. But most of the blame must rest on the shoulders of politicians at Westminster.

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Politicians blamed by Scarman for city riots

Lord Scarman yesterday blamed politicians, the police and the community at large for the summer riots in Britain's inner cities.

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BL workers vote for all-out strike

By Clifford Webb and Donald Macintyre

Sir Michael Edwards, British Leyland chairman, was on a collision course with Britain's two biggest unions last night after BL car workers voted by a large majority at mass meetings to strike from November 1.

Leaders of the Transport and General Workers Union and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, both promised official backing for a strike which they warned would go ahead if the company did not improve its 3.8 per cent offer to BL Cars 58,000 employees.

Sir Michael, who was again assured of full ministerial backing, said he stood firmly behind his letter warning that strikers would be dismissed and the worst affected plants liquidated if the dispute went ahead.

Sir Michael, who was attending a motor industry lunch in London, said he was totally surprised by the results and added: "The letter says it all. I have nothing to add or subtract."

Throughout the country many workers claimed that Sir Michael's threat had rebounded by hardening attitudes and swaying waverrers.

Shop stewards were cheered when they accused him of "blackmail", using workers as "cannon fodder", and replacing traditional negotiations with "edicts from on high".

The big car assembly plants at Longbridge and Cowley, employing between them more than 22,000 manual workers, lead the way with massive strike votes and were soon followed by eight other plants, including Land-Rover Solihull, Jaguar Assembly and Rover.

Between them they account for some two-thirds of the workforce.

There was opposition from a larger number of small plants, of which the most important are Swindon bodyworks, with 2,500 employees, Jaguar engines (1,500) and Daimler Chassis (2,100). They also included three plants under notice to close—Speke, Coventry Engines and Rover cars, Solihull, where workers want to protect redundancy payments.

The 900 hourly-paid production workers at the Pressed Steel Fisher, BL subsidiary plant at Speke, have asked to be exempt from any national strike. Speke is scheduled for

closure and a union spokesman said later that job preservation, not pay, was the cardinal issue.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry, spelled out the Government's determination to stand by Sir Michael, in his biggest confrontation since arriving at BL four years ago.

On BBC radio he said: "We would back him and do back him all the way." He wanted union leaders to know that the BL board meant every word of its threat to liquidate, and that the Government would stand behind it. If that happened it would be a major disaster for British industry but one that the BL workforce would have brought on its own head.

Union leaders yesterday spoke of the disastrous spin-off for the component industry if BL went out of business. They talked of anything between 500,000 and two million jobs being at stake in BL and its suppliers. But last night senior executives said these figures were grossly inaccurate.

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Orme warning of general election in six months

By John Witherow

A general election within six months, and a winter of political and industrial discontent were predicted yesterday by Mr Stanley Orme, Opposition spokesman on industry.

He told a press conference in the Croydon North West by-election campaign: "This Tory government is rocking and a general election in six months is not now out of the question."

A re-endorsement by Mrs Margaret Thatcher of her policies could bring a situation in Parliament or elsewhere this winter "which would make Labour's winter of discontent in 1979 seem like a tea party."

Mr Orme said that once things started to get out of hand, there was no stopping them. His government experience had shown him that if one thing went wrong, "you lose control of the situation," he said.

He could foresee the Prime Minister being forced to go to the country for a fresh mandate and said there would be "one hell of a bloody fight" when the Commons resumed next week.

Mr Orme, Labour MP for Salford, West, said Commons vote accompanied by massive abstentions by Conservative MPs could be devastating and mean a change of leadership.

Asked about the findings of a National Opinion Poll, published yesterday in the Daily Mail, which showed that Mr William Pitt, the Liberal Social Democrat candidate, was ahead of the other two main parties, Mr Orme appealed to constituents to vote for Labour.

To vote for the Liberal-SDP alliance would be throwing a vote away, he said. "They have no alternative strategy and no answer to the problems we are faced with."

Mr Stanley Boden, the Labour candidate, who admitted that next week's one-day rail strike could harm his election chances, predicted that Labour would win by 13,000 and 14,000 votes in next Thursday's by-election with the other parties taking about 11,000 votes apiece.

Mr William Rodgers, a leader of the Social Democrats, also visited Croydon and said the Conservative Government was more deeply divided than at any time since Baldwin or Churchill.

The Conservatives have more to fear than Labour in London from the Liberal-Social Democrat alliance, according to a detailed computer analysis (see Bradley writes).

The analysis, commissioned for last night's London Programme on London Weekend Television, suggests that the alliance is much more likely to win seats in the London boroughs than in the inner city areas.

It is based on a correlation of the findings of opinion polls

and the social profiles of every street in London.

The polls have shown the dominant characteristics of those who say that they would vote for the alliance in terms of social class, age and sex. By establishing the extent of those characteristics among the population of specific constituencies, it is possible to suggest how well the alliance should perform in them.

The evidence from the polls is that those who say they would vote Social Democrat much more closely resemble Conservative than Labour voters.

For the programme, that analysis was applied to voting intentions, established by averaging out the findings of Gallup, NOP and MORI opinion polls taken over the past three months.

The analysis shows that the Conservatives are likely to receive 30 per cent of the vote, with Labour and the alliance each taking 35 per cent.

On the basis of those shares, the computer calculates that in next year's local council elections Labour would win control of 13 boroughs, the alliance seven and the Conservatives only two (Bromley and Kingston upon Thames). In a further 10 there would be no overall control.

On the basis of the alliance would win are Kensington and Chelsea, Westminster, Barnet, Ealing, Harrow, Redbridge and Richmond upon Thames.

The survey was carried out by a market analysis group CACI. The predictions should be treated with some scepticism as they take no account of local or organisational factors and involve a margin of error of one to two per cent.

Labour easily beat off a challenge by the SDP in a Birmingham City Council by-election on Thursday in Mr Roy Jenkins's former parliamentary seat of Birmingham, Edgbaston (see Press Association reports).

The Labour candidate, Mrs Pat Sever, wife of Mr John Sever, Labour MP for Birmingham, Edgbaston, gained almost 12,000 votes to one majority over her SDP rival.

Mr Michael Thomas, SDP MP for Newcastle East, said yesterday that the new party would welcome Conservative "wags" who have been attacking Mrs Thatcher's policies in Blackpool this week.

Mr Thomas also said that the party would not welcome Labour MPs who decided to join only after failing to be re-elected by their constituents' associations.

Mr Roy Jenkins, leader of the Social Democrats, gave a warning yesterday that withdrawal from the EEC would put a further one million people on the dole in Britain.

Mr Jenkins said the main source of the country's export market would collapse if an anti-European government opted

out of the EEC. Withdrawal, he said, would leave the country isolated in an increasingly dangerous world.

Speaking in Warrington, Mr Jenkins said: "After seven rather lean trading years with Europe we are now getting substantial benefits."

"To leave now would be to throw away much of the thought and effort by our exporters over the last eight years."

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, last night challenged what he claimed was Mrs Thatcher's view that unemployment was good for Britain in the long run.

He said in Plymouth that while the Prime Minister's claim that wage claims had moderated because of unemployment was undeniably true, she had done nothing to construct the framework of a fair, long-term pay policy, because she did not believe in it.

"What we have is wage limitation through fear, and I do not think that is a desirable or sustainable policy in the long term," Mr Steel said.

"I do not say that unemployment is the sole cause of the riots that we have seen in our cities, but as Mrs Thatcher's nanny could have told her, idle hands find mischief, and there is a general mood of despair, even of rebellion among a whole generation of 16 to 18 year olds."

The National Front plans to avoid a ban on marches through Croydon ordered last night by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary. Front supporters intend to parade through Streatham, which adjoins Croydon, to the edge of the Croydon border.

Sir David McNee, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, asked for the ban, which came into force at 6 pm and will last until 6 am on Monday.

The National Front intend to march, but will use a different route to that previously notified to the authorities.

Labour council chief dropped as candidate

The leader and seven Labour councillors in the London Borough of Southwark have been dropped from the list of approved party candidates for next year's borough elections.

Mr John O'Grady and his fellow councillors are appealing to the London Labour Party against the decision on Thursday night by the Southwark constituency party's general management committee not to include them on their local government panel. Only those on the panel are eligible to be candidates in local elections.

Mr O'Grady, a right-winger who has been on Southwark council for 22 years, said as leader, said last night that one of the reasons given for rejecting him was that he was a potential Social Democrat.

Mr O'Grady said he was not a Social Democrat and that he was a Labour councillor for 22 years.

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Fears that farmers may abuse wildlife Bill

By John Young
Planning Reporter

The Government's willingness to provide funds to compensate farmers who are refused improvement grants in national parks and sites of special scientific interest will be severely tested in the coming months.

On Thursday night the Lords voted by the narrowest of margins, 33 to 37, to reject an amendment to the Wildlife and Countryside Bill which would have made the award of compensation discretionary.

As a result farmers will in theory be free, as soon as the Bill becomes law, to put forward as many schemes as they like for such things as converting moorland to pasture or crop growing, draining marshes or clearing woodlands and, if they are refused the grant for conservation reasons, to claim compensation.

But although conservationists have claimed in recent weeks that compensation could amount to millions of pounds a year, opinion yesterday was that the Government was not likely to be over the probable effects.

The strongest reaction came from the Council for the Protection of Rural England, which described the Bill as "a truly dreadful piece of legislation. It imposes duties on the conservation agencies which will prove impossible to enforce and wholly unworkable."

Lord Onslow, who moved the unsuccessful amendment, said: "Farmers have been given the green light and I expect that the NCC will in reply, behave as though it had been given a blank cheque."

Neither the Countryside Commission nor the NCC was prepared to comment, but the National Farmers' Union doubted whether its members would see the Bill as "a soft touch."

In the first place, improvement grant applications which had no serious justification would be rejected by the Ministry of Agriculture for agricultural and not conservation reasons, and their refusal would not entitle the applicants to compensation.

Second, management agreements would impose much more onerous commitments on farmers than many people believed. They would have to take a positive responsibility for conservation and would not simply be able to claim large sums of money for doing nothing.

Mr Denis Healey, deputy leader of the Labour Party, last night denied that he had asked to be relieved of the post of shadow Foreign Secretary. He said that a report in *The Times* claiming that he had asked to be relieved was "a complete fabrication."

Asked if he was happy in his present post, he said: "I expect so. I shall not even think about it until we have the shadow cabinet elections." The elections are in November.

An equally strong denial came from Mr Foot's office in the Commons. It is absolute nonsense, it said, that Mr Foot has made no such request.

Mr Foot's office said that he was a Labour MP for 22 years and that he was a Labour MP for 22 years.

The future for BL Foreign buyers in the wings

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

If Sir Michael Edwards, the BL chairman, carries out his threat to liquidate the rebellious sections of the state-owned car division after yesterday's vote in favour of a strike, it is likely that the entire BL empire—one of the country's biggest employers and export earners—would be split up and sold, much of it to foreign interests.

The BL car operations constitute a complex web of interrelated plants throughout England and Wales, and it would be a difficult and highly expensive task to close or sell some of the big factories without generating a serious knock-on effect to others.

A leading firm of liquidators in London said this week that it doubted if, in the legal sense, the BL board could call for the liquidation of the business. The Government, BL's main shareholder, would be asked to appoint a liquidator for all the company's assets, including the Leyland Vehicles commercial truck and bus business.

In addition to the British operations, BL's one direct subsidiary—BLMC Ltd—wholly or partly owns through its international holdings company a wide variety of subsidiaries in Europe, North America, Africa and Australia.

Probably the easiest part of the United Kingdom car business to dispose of would be the Coventry-based Jaguar/Daimler division. It produces luxury cars that are still in demand throughout the world and after recent attempts to increase efficiency and quality, and to introduce more economical models, a number of potential buyers could emerge.

The BL car operations alone might also attract European producers such as Renault, the company's state-owned French equivalent. Mergers and collaboration deals have been the vogue in Europe in recent years and there is a strong belief that within the next decade the Continent will have less than a handful of major car companies.

The spectre of liquidation has also given rise to speculation about the future of Sir Michael Edwards, BL's chairman, who would be kept on by any new owner of the car business.

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The Cowley plant, on the outskirts of Oxford, could attract a car manufacturer seeking a ready-made operation although the plant is not geared up for the production of engines and transmissions, which would have to be brought in already assembled.

Much of Cowley's work is in tandem with Longbridge in Birmingham, which makes the engines and gearboxes for the Oxford-made Princess and Ital models.

The possible liquidation of BL will raise, once again, the suggestion that the expansionist-minded Japanese motor industry, particularly companies like Nissan and Honda, could seize the opportunity to establish manufacturing bases in Europe.

Honda already has its joint venture with BL for the assembly of the Ballade, renamed the Triumph Acclaim, for the European market, while its rival, Nissan, is keen to engage in overseas manufacture and is studying the possibility of a United Kingdom assembly plant.

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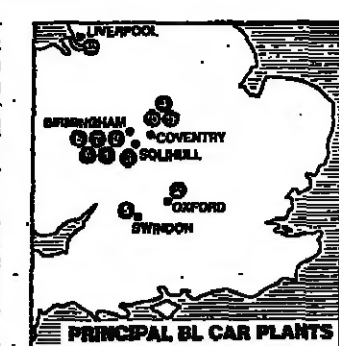
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Principal BL car plants, numbers of all employees and products.

1 Longbridge (18,000)	Mini, Metro, Allegro, engine and transmission for these models and for Princess, Shearvan and Ital. (For the strike)
2 Cowley (10,000)	Two plants producing bodies for Rover, Princess, Acclaim and Ital and assembling Princess, Acclaim and Ital. (For the strike)
3 Ryton (7,000)	Two plants assembling Rover (Against strike), Land-Rover and Range Rover (For strike). Due to be closed.
4 Browns Lane and Radford (4,800)	Two plants assembling Jaguar/Daimler saloons, Daimler limousines and XJS (For strike) and producing XK engines and V12 engines and transmissions (Against strike)
5 Swindon (3,500)	Body pressings for Rover, Jaguar/Daimler and Metro. (Against strike)
6 Castle Bromwich (1,500)	Body shell for Jaguar/Daimler. (For strike)
7 Common Lane (1,200)	Assembly of Shearvan. (Against strike)
8 Druce Lane (2,000)	Transmission components for Mini and Metro. (Against strike)
9 St Paul Street (550)	Carburetors. (Against strike)
10 Canter (1,200)	Engineering centre. (Against strike)
11 Coventry Engines (1,500)	Sheet metal and engine components. Due to be closed. (Against strike)
12 Speke (1,900)	Body pressings for most models. Due to be closed. (Against strike)

These plants account for about 80 per cent of BL's total staff and hourly paid workforce of about 65,000. The remaining 15 per cent are in nine locations in the south, Midlands and Wales producing car electricals and engine and drive, engine and other components.

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Science report Sickle cell disease detectable in embryo

By the staff of "Nature"

Sickle cell anaemia, a severe inherited blood disorder common among black people, can now be detected unequivocally in the embryo, giving the mother the chance to opt for an abortion if she wishes.

A genetic test devised for detecting sickle cell anaemia in the foetus has been developed before, but all relied on a loose association of events which would leave the mother, or her doctor, unsure whether her developing foetus really had sickle cell anaemia or not. The decision to abort or not is then an agonizing one. But with the new method the diagnosis should be certain.

It is the result of applying sophisticated genetic engineering techniques, usually reserved for the laboratory, to the analysis of tiny amounts of DNA extracted from the foetus. Twenty micrograms, less than a millionth of an ounce, of foetal DNA is analysed by the laboratory work, say researchers from the Medical College and University of Georgia. Such amounts can be extracted from the fluid surrounding the foetus in the womb.

The DNA is a chemical message contained in every cell of the foetus (and ultimately of the adult). It determines the construction of every part of the body, including the molecules of the blood, haemoglobin. Haemoglobin consists of four long protein chains wrapped around one another (and an iron-based "heme" that carries oxygen). But in an individual affected with sickle cell anaemia, two of the protein chains have a single incorrect amino acid, which causes the haemoglobin to be defective.

This broken link can be traced back to an error on the DNA message: a "point mutation", like a typographical error when a letter is substituted for another. This is a way to detect the sickle cell error in a foetus would be to detect this fault in the DNA.

However, since the human DNA message is about 3 billion letters long (it is coiled and supercoiled inside the cell) and the fault is only a few atoms across, the task might seem to be somewhat greater than searching for a needle in a haystack. But the Georgia group have accomplished it, using genetic engineering.

First, the group isolated the DNA from a small piece of tissue. Then they took a very special pair of chemical scissors, an essential part of the genetic engineers' equipment, which cut the DNA only at certain places. These places were ones where a particular message occurred, a message specific to the chosen scissors. The result was a set of DNA pieces of various lengths, the lengths depending on the recurrences of the message.

The cunning step was to choose the scissors message so that it would not cut the DNA at the sickle cell error. The message was chosen so that it would cut at that point if there were no error. Thus, sickle cell DNA would be cut into a different set of lengths from ordinary DNA. The presence of the sickle cell error would be detected by the lengths of DNA is a simple physical property that can be determined by standard methods, so once the group had found the right scissors, the rest was easy.

Source: *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, vol. 78, p. 5081 (1981).

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Tories besieged by jobs march

From Hugh Noyes, Blackpool

An impressive and well-organized demonstration by between 5,000 and 8,000 Right to Work marchers culminated the final day of the Conservative conference yesterday.

Led by a small brown dog called Rusty, bravely carrying a large placard saying "Kick the Tories out", the march wound its way through Blackpool for about two hours—twice around the conference hall and back to the promenade.

Nearly 2,000 police from the Cumbria, Merseyside, Lancashire and Manchester forces lined the route, sometimes three deep, with mounted police in reserve behind barriers. Conservative representatives were virtually besieged within the hall during the march.

An egg, splattering near Mr Bruce Garsdale, appeared to trigger off a sudden outburst of anger from a small section of the crowd, many wearing Socialist Workers' Party insignia. Stricks, eggs, empty beer cans and other missiles flew in all directions despite valiant

attempts by stewards to get the march moving again.

One of the ranks of police charged and forced the crowds back as the confrontation developed. But it was soon over and only a handful of skinheads remained to chant and jeer.

The rally, coordinated by the Blackpool Trades Council, was mainly good-natured. One minor distraction came when some Merseyside shop stewards tried to force a group of Socialist Workers' Party protesters protesting at the Pope's visit. Police moved in to isolate the ministers from the angry marchers, and after a scuffle in which a bottle was thrown peace was rapidly restored.

Conference report page 4

EXIT court hears recording about 'wild goose chase'

By Frances Gibb

A member of EXIT, the voluntary euthanasia society, accused a woman of wasting his time and leading him on a wild goose chase when she changed her mind about assisting him in his alleged attempt at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

The court heard a recorded telephone conversation allegedly between Mr Mark Lyons, aged 70, and his friend, in which Mr Lyons describes how the woman, who was crippled from spine injuries, had been the only one to disobey him and made him "fail at the first attempt."

The conversation continued: "I don't allow that. The others are only too pleased to get the bloody tablets down them. They couldn't take the tablets any more, you bloody bitch, why should you lead me on wild goose chase?"

"I said I don't allow the Queen or Prince Philip to waste my time and I'm not going to allow a scum like you to do it... I'm not taking my neck for you or anybody else to get disobedience, any disobedience."

The caller added: "There will be no questioning of my commandment, none at all."

On Thursday the court heard evidence from a woman aged 40 who had completed a suicide but changed her mind. She said that a man calling himself Arthur had come to her home and tried to persuade her to kill herself against her wishes.

When she told him she did not want to go through with it, he said he became angry. Mr Lyons, of Fairhead Gardens, West Hampstead, a part-time helper with EXIT, is accused of murdering one person and of aiding and abetting

five others to kill themselves. Mr Nicholas Reed, aged 33, of Sanford Walk, New Cross, general secretary of the society, faces two charges of aiding and abetting, and they both face three charges of conspiring to aid and abet. Both deny all the charges.

The jury also heard yesterday a man aged 25 from the aged 70, and his friend, in which Mr Lyons describes how the woman, who was crippled from spine injuries, had been the only one to disobey him and made him "fail at the first attempt."

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New surge in sectarian killings

From Christopher Thomas, Belfast

The murder of a leading "loyalist" social worker and the attempted assassination of an Ulster Defence Regiment member in Northern Ireland in no doubt last night that a new campaign of sectarian violence is under way.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary said in a statement that the murder of a leading "loyalist" social worker and the attempted assassination of an Ulster Defence Regiment member in Northern Ireland in no doubt last night that a new campaign of sectarian violence is under way.

The Ulster National Liberation Army (UNLA) claimed responsibility for shooting dead Mr Billy McCullough, aged 32, a leading figure in the Prisoners' Aid Association, yesterday morning.

He was a prominent member of the Ulster Defence Association, the biggest Protestant paramilitary force in the province. The killers pulled up outside his home in the loyalist Shankill Road area on a red Honda motorcycle and the pistol passenger fired nine shots

through the window of his car as he was about to drive away.

UNLA, using the correct code word, admitted responsibility in a telephone call. Referring to sectarian murders in the past week, by the Ulster Freedom Fighters, it said the UFF was nothing more than a flag of convenience for the Ulster Defence Association, which is not proscribed.

There are signs that the murder of Mr McCullough is part of a new campaign of sectarian violence in the province. The killing on Thursday of a Roman Catholic pensioner, Mrs Mary McKay, as she slept in bed. Two men were being questioned about her murder last night.

The attack on the Ulster Defence Regiment man, a paramilitary who was shot as he left a jeweller's shop, where he worked in St Albans, to Tyrone, was claimed by the IRA last night. His attackers escaped on a motorcycle. He was taken by helicopter to a Belfast hospital and was seriously ill with leg wounds.

Detectors hunting the Provisional IRA team behind last Saturday's nail bomb attack in London will have used roadside videotape films on streets in Victoria and north London to try to find more witnesses (Stewart-Tendler writes).

Schools Council too political, ministers told

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

The Schools Council is too political, oversteered, and not as effective as it should be, but should nevertheless continue with its present functions for the schools' curriculum and examinations, Mrs Nancy Trenaman, Principal of St Anne's College, Oxford, says in her report to the Government.

The Government asked her to review the council's functions, composition, and methods of work. Her report, submitted earlier this week, will be published in about a fortnight.

Mrs Trenaman said her inquiries showed that "the root of the criticism of the Schools Council, both from its detractors and its supporters, is dislike of the application of power politics to a matter so important as schools education". It was a dislike that she shared.

There were many other bodies within and outside education, similar to the Schools Council, but who were more successful in building frank discussions in a less abrasive atmosphere, she said.

She believed there had been some improvement in recent years. But the council would never command such wide public acceptance as it deserved unless it could make considerable further progress.

She was also concerned about the tressome, anti-intellectual flavour of some of the council's discussions in meetings, and believed that public esteem would be enhanced if council members were better informed and used more precise language.

The only extension to the council's functions which was widely supported, was in the field of further education. Mrs Trenaman was against that proposal, however, because it would mean taking on a large amount of new work when the council was already over-stretched.

The quality of the council's curriculum development work had been "a mixture of good, bad and indifferent", she said, but appreciated to consider that to be expected, and not to constitute grounds for censure. She was more critical of the efforts made to disseminate the products of the council's work.

Mrs Trenaman rejects suggestions that the council should consist of members nominated by the Secretary of State for Education. Such a body would only be consistent with a system of central government control of the curriculum and examinations, she said.

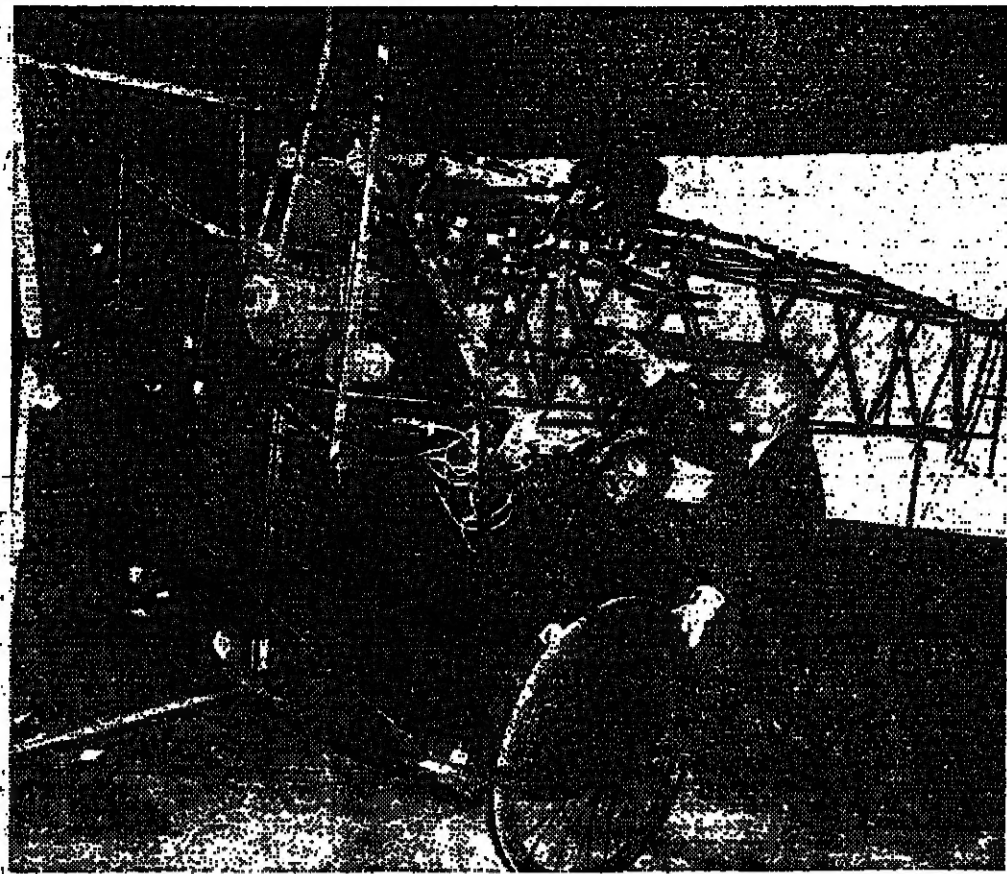
She recommends that there should be five standing committees: finance and priorities, the professional committee, curriculum, examinations, and the Welsh committee. But the primary and secondary curriculum committee should be discontinued, she said.

□ Suggestions that parents should be charged a mean-tested fee for children in primary and secondary schools have been firmly and swiftly rejected by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

However, he is looking closely at the possibility of curbing the value of student grants in real terms next year. Indeed, that is spending in which further cuts are thought likely or even feasible.

Sir Keith is also known to be interested in reviving the idea of a student loan scheme, which the Government rejected earlier this year because it would be too costly in the short term.

It was to be expected that with Sir Keith coming into office at the beginning of a new Government, discussions on the Government's public expenditure plans, he should ask civil servants in his department to draw up various hypothetical plans as to how further education savings might be made.



Looking back: A replica of A. V. Roe's 1909 Triplane being wheeled into the Museum of London yesterday for an exhibition of early British Aircraft, London's Flying Start, opening on November 14. (Photograph by Malcolm Clarke).

Chancery delays to be cut

By Our Legal Correspondent

Steps will be taken to reduce delays in the Chancery Division of the High Court and improve its efficiency, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, announced in a written answer in the House of Lords on Wednesday.

The reforms, which follow the recommendations of a review body chaired by Mr Justice Oliver, would reduce the waiting time for long cases involving witnesses and enable judges' time to be used better, the Lord Chancellor said.

The Chancery Division deals mainly with commercial and financial work.

Minister urged to oppose EEC on battery hens

By Hugh Clayton

Animal welfare campaigners appealed to the Government yesterday to reject EEC proposals to protect chickens from cruelty on battery farms on the grounds that the proposals would do nothing to improve conditions.

They asked Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture and president of the council of EEC farm ministers, to set a date for the abolition of battery cages, which are often stacked in tiers with up to five birds in each cage.

It was the most united campaign for some time by the highly-fragmented animal welfare movement. Leaders of several societies delivered a petition with 243,000 signatures to the ministry in Whitehall yesterday.

The groups chose to demonstrate yesterday because proposals from the European Commission about battery cages are to be debated on Monday at a meeting of the EEC Council chaired by Mr Walker. The Farm Animal Welfare Coordinating Executive, an umbrella organization of 12 welfare bodies, including the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said that the commission's plan would not improve the conditions of the 226 million hens now kept in battery cages in the community. Most egg-laying hens in Britain are kept in such cages.

RSC says low grant forces up seat price

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

The Royal Shakespeare Company, one of the four national companies, yesterday criticized the Arts Council for providing it with a smaller grant than the other three.

In its annual report for 1980-81, the company said that the grant disparity between the RSC and other national companies was "a major cause for concern for the future". The result was that the company was having to sell tickets at prices which were meeting resistance from theatre-goers, and paying its staff less than other comparable organizations.

The Arts Council rejected the company's complaint and pointed out that it had nationwide responsibilities for the provision and support of the arts and that it had to maintain a balance between all competing demands.

The report shows that the company effectively broke even in 1980-81, with a deficit of £1,250 on total costs of £6,631,622.

Introducing the report, Sir Kenneth Cork, chairman of the council of governors, said the Arts Council grant for the year of £2,300,000 showed an increase of 21 per cent, but still represented the smallest proportion, at 38.55 per cent of its costs, among comparable organizations.

We have no doubt whatsoever that the particular claims of other theatres to their subsidies are well substantiated and that the grants they

receive are well deserved, but only 11.09 per cent of the resources available to the four national companies for 1981-82 has been allocated to the RSC, and Arts Council subsidy as a percentage of total RSC costs has diminished regularly over the past three years, he said.

For 1981-82, the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, receives a grant of £9,020,000 from the Arts Council, compared with £3,400,000 for the National Theatre, £4,500,000 for the English National Opera and £2,550,000 for the RSC.

The report states that apart from a small grant of £1,350 from Stratford upon Avon district council, the RSC depends entirely upon the Arts Council for its subsidy.

He said the need to charge high ticket prices was seriously limiting its ability to attract the young, less affluent, overseas visitors who had previously been a valuable source of foreign currency, whose who were not in the habit of going to the theatre and those who had not yet been introduced to Shakespeare.

Sir Kenneth said the company did not seek more subsidy taken from other companies. "We seek an urgent increase in the total public funding available to the performing arts."

In its response, the Arts Council welcomed the RSC's urgent plea for an increase in the total public funding available for the arts.

Seven on bullion charge

Six men and a woman were remanded in custody yesterday after the seizure of £2m gold bullion from a private aircraft at RAF Northolt on Wednesday.

All seven appeared before Ealing, west London magistrates charged under section 170 of the Customs and Excise Management Act, with fraudulently attempting to evade value-added tax chargeable on gold, and being knowingly concerned in dealing with it.

They are: Thomas Powell, aged 38, of Golders Green Road, Golders Green, north London;

John Mulqueen, aged 41, of Dawley Road, Hayes, Middlesex; Len Berry, aged 47, and his wife Freda, of Taggs Island, Hampton, Middlesex; Spencer Eade, aged 31, of Delfry Road, Portlisle, Sussex; Christopher Michael, aged 43, of Coombe Hill Road, East Grinstead, Sussex and John Ward, aged 42, of Crawford Street, Mayfair, west London.

All seven will reappear on October 23, six made no application for bail, and Mrs Berry had her application refused.

Zoo accused of waste in breeding pandas

By Tony Samstag

Attempts by the London Zoo to breed from their giant pandas, Chiu-Chia and Ching-Ching, were dismissed as a waste of money yesterday by an officer of the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, one of the oldest and most respected British conservation agencies.

Mr John Burton, executive secretary of the society, whose offices are provided by the zoo in Regents Park, said he was expressing a personal view when he told *The Times*: "We can quite easily save the giant pandas; but what is the point if they are evolutionary dead ends? His opinion would almost certainly be deplored 'as heresy' by the society, he added.

The giant pandas made headlines earlier this week with the announcement of the latest failure in the series of attempts to mate them.

Ching-Ching's failed pregnancy, by artificial insemination, became known while her partner was still in six-month rabies quarantine after his return from Washington and an unsuccessful attempt to breed with a different female there.

The species, Mr Burton said, was a fairly good example of a "post-pleistocene relic", that is, one of a group of survivors of the last ice age that have been dying off slowly as their habitats contracted naturally. Another example is the American bison.

Because such species were no less doomed than the prehistoric mammoth or sabre-toothed tiger, Mr Burton argued, it made little sense to waste thousands of pounds on captive breeding programmes when the money might be better spent, for example, on buying land and otherwise extending existing nature reserves.

Dr John Hearn, the zoo's scientific director, said the remaining years of the century would see such advances in cell technology and genetic manipulation that there was no knowing at this stage what the ultimate value of any species might be.

IN BRIEF

Now sheep may safely graze

A visit to the dentist's chair has made grazing more pleasurable for 60 ewes on a Ministry of Agriculture farm at Preston, Wymore, Hereford and Worcester.

They have been fitted with false teeth, a development which could save farmers thousands of pounds because, until now, sheep with bad teeth had to be culled as they could not eat. Mr David Brown, in charge of the project, said the sheep sat in a padded chair, similar to those used by dentists.

Flaming dress

Mrs Mary Copeland, of Alfreton Road, Nottingham, who set her dress on fire while lighting a cigarette in a shopping centre yesterday, was rescued when passers-by snuffed off the burning garment.

She was detained in the Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham.

'Crossroads' clue

Confirmation yesterday that filming for the ATV series *Crossroads* will take place on the liner QE2 on Sunday has increased speculation over the fate of Meg Mortimer, played by Noele Gordon. She is due to be written out of the series in early November.

Children may smoke

Children under 16 years of age who were addicted to smoking before they entered community homes in Lincolnshire are to be allowed to continue, councillors have decided. But they will be strictly rationed and supervised.

Missing girl safe

Christine O'Hare, aged 10, of Waterloo Road, Lissdale, Bedfordshire, who had been taken home from school on Thursday, was found yesterday after spending the night in a park. She telephoned a neighbour and was taken to her mother.

Fire-eater burnt

Mr Colin Pellatt, aged 27, a fire-eater, was recovering in a Salisbury hospital yesterday after being burnt on the chest and neck when a breeze blew back the flames during his act in a Bournemouth hotel.

Sports car of the sky

A descendant of the hang-glider with a two stroke petrol engine and dual seating took to the air yesterday at Charterhouse, Somerset. Its top speed is 55 mph.

£50,000 Rolls-Royce had fire hazard, judge says

From Our Correspondent, Manchester

After buying a £50,000 Rolls-Royce, Mr Michael Hurst, a businessman, heard a rattle in the rear suspension and could smell petrol in the car, it was said in the High Court, Manchester, yesterday.

Later a consulting engineer reported that the car would not pass a MOT test, Mr Justice Russell said.

The judge found that M and T Hurst Consulting Ltd, of Lyme Grove, Altrincham, Cheshire, were entitled to reject the vehicle, bought last October from Grange Motors Ltd, of Brentwood, Essex.

Grange Motors were ordered to pay £51,700 plus interest and with costs to cover the value of the Corniche car and storage charges.

In a second action, Rolls

Royce Motors Ltd, said to have admitted negligence in manufacturing the car, must pay £2,747 with costs.

The judge said that Mr Hurst, a Rolls enthusiast, saw the Corniche advertised in the *Sunday Times*. Although a 1979 model, it was said to have covered only 400 miles.

He had the car examined by an engineer who decided there was a fire hazard and that the Rolls was unroadworthy.

The judge said Mr Hurst not surprisingly lost confidence in the car and was entitled to reject it. He added: "I find there were serious manufacturing defects in this vehicle."

Grange Motors were granted a stay of execution for 21 days while an appeal is being considered.

Probation officers attack 'training for dole queue'

From Ronald Kershaw, Bridlington

A plea for the Government to employ more probation officers to relieve the crisis in the penal and prison system was made at the annual conference of the National Association of Probation Officers at Bridlington yesterday.

Mr John Hutchins, chairman of the association's training committee, said: "Many of the men and women rotting in this country's jails could be dealt with by non-custodial sentences without serious social breakdown or the end of civilized society as we know it."

The conference was told that about a hundred unemployed probation officers had been "wooded and cajoled into the service by seductive press advertising", trained at a cost of £1.4m, and had then joined the unemployment queue.

Mr Hutchins said: "They are people who were never warned when they started training that there might be no job for them at the end of it."

"Some have run up substantial debts through taking drops in salary to train. They have also put up with the inadequacies of students' codes, and conditions of service along the way."

They are people with mortgages and with wives and husbands and children they have to support. Their salaries are stopped just as soon as their courses end."

Mr Hutchins said that accord-

ing to Home Office calculations those lucky people who had just qualified would not get jobs until next March. By that time next year's crop of new officers would be breathing down their necks.

"The £1.4m of taxpayers' money was unaccountably being thrown away at a time of financial cuts biting deep into living standards, health, education and welfare budgets."

He said: "This wastage is occurring at a time when the need for 100 extra probation officers has never been greater."

Contrary to what the conservative Party conference apparently believes, our prisons are not crammed with violent dangerous men, who must be incarcerated for long periods for society's protection."

He said they could be dealt with by non-custodial sentences.

"If this Government really wants to reduce the present population, wants to maintain the probation service as a central plank in its penal policy, why on earth can't it see the prospect of 100 extra trained probation officers over establishment needs as the most exciting opportunity for years to give the service the manpower resources to start shifting more offenders from our destructive prison system?"

A resolution agreeing to campaign for expansion of the probation and after-care service was passed.

Jail crisis warning by parole chief

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A collapse of the system was a possibility in a number of prisons, Lord Harris of Greenwich, chairman of the Parole Board, said yesterday.

The crisis in Britain's prisons had reached the gravest dimension, he told a meeting of the Howard League for Penal Reform at Salisbury. But simply building more prisons was not the answer.

In 1976, the average daily prison population was 41,443, he said. By September this year there were 44,317 in custody. Of those, more than 4,000 were living three to a cell and nearly 11,000 two to a cell. That situation was a harsh reproach to any civilized society, creating squalid conditions for both staff and inmates.

Lord Harris referred to criticism of Home Office proposals for an early supervised release system for shorter-sentence prisoners to cut numbers in custody dramatically.

On Thursday *The Times* reported that Judge Pickles, a circuit judge, had rebuked Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, for threatening courts with legislation if they went on imprisoning non-violent offenders at present levels. The Home Office had refused to provide enough prisons or even to maintain existing buildings adequately, he said.

Lord Harris said yesterday: "What the critics realize is that the Home Office cannot deal with the present situation by simply building more

prisons; there is, in any event, a major programme under way."

"This programme will not, however, increase the number of local prisons, where the problems are most intense, and when it is argued that we must build more local prisons in order to deal with the numbers now in custody, the critics must recognise that it takes up to 10 years to build a prison."

"That would hardly help to deal with the immediate crisis which is facing us. In any event, it is hard to see how, amassively enlarged building programme could be justified at a time when so many other desirable projects are being rejected on public expenditure grounds."

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Conservative Party conference ends to rousing cheers with a reaffirmation of faith from the Prime Minister

Thatcher: I will not change to court popularity

In Blackpool this week we have had the grand assemblage of the nation. Once more the Conservative Party has demonstrated that it is the party of all the people.

We are not here to manipulate millions in block votes in some travesty of democracy. Nor are we drawn here by the tinsel glamour of a marriage of convenience. We are here as representatives of a myriad different interests from every constituency, here because we share a deep and abiding concern for the future of our country and our party.

There has been strenuous discussion and dissent. I welcome that. For years I have grown used to the charge that we are bland and anodyne, careful to avoid differences. That is not a charge that could be levelled at this year.

We have witnessed a party conscious of its awesome responsibilities as government at an immensely difficult time; difficult not only for us but for many other countries in the world, for we are not alone in our problems.

The diversity of our party is not a source of weakness, it is a part of our strength, for it is the reflection of the personal commitment that each one of us brings to the task that lies ahead.

Let me say at once that I am glad that Ted Heath addressed the conference, and delighted that he will be helping us in the Crofton by-election (applause). Our country is weathering stormy waters. We may have different ideas on how best to navigate them. But we all sail the same ocean and in the same ship.

I have listened to much of the debate that has taken place in this hall, and — do you know — I seem to have heard a good deal of what has been said to us around and even beyond the fringe. I want to draw together what seems to me to be the main strands of your wisdom and advice to the Government, and to express some of your worries.

On unemployment, there is deep and heartfelt concern for the personal hardship and waste reflected in every factory closure and redundancy.

I learn from childhood the dignity which comes from work and, by contrast, the affront to self-esteem which comes from enforced idleness. For us, work was the only way of life we knew and we were taught to believe that it was not only a necessity, but a virtue.

The concern of this conference is focused on the plight of the unemployed, but we seek not only to display and demonstrate that concern, but to find and pursue those policies which offer the best hope of more lasting jobs in future years. To do that we must learn the lessons of the past in order to avoid the mistakes that led to the increase of inflation and unemployment in the first place.

Today's unemployment is partly due to the sharp increase in oil prices. It absorbed much that might otherwise have gone to increased investment or to buying the things that British factories produce. But that is not all. Too much of our present unemployment is due to enormous past wage increases unmatched by higher output.

To union restrictive practices, to overmanning, to strikes, to indifferent management, and to the mistaken belief that, come what may, the Government would always come in to bail out companies in difficulty. No policy can succeed that shirks these basic issues.

We have to earn our living in a world which can choose between the goods we produce and those of other countries. The irony is that many of our people spend five days of the week making British goods and on Saturday go out to spend their earnings on goods produced abroad; goods made in countries which have embraced more modern technology, and where management and work-force understand that they are on the same side.

Yes, unemployment is the most emotional issue in our country. However, much we may explain what has led to it... (there was an interruption in the hall)... yes in this conference it does matter, it matters not only to talk about it but to try to do something constructive about it and demonstrations do not help either.

We cannot alter the fact that many people who have worked loyally and well for firms up and down the country feel bruised and resentful when after long and devoted service they suddenly find themselves without a job. I understand that — I feel the same — but that would make what our task is in this conference all the more important. It is not only to talk about it but to try to do something constructive about it and demonstrations do not help either.

There has been a party conscious of its awesome responsibilities as government at an immensely difficult time; difficult not only for us but for many other countries in the world, for we are not alone in our problems.

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The Prime Minister, in her conference address, reported here in full, said that she could not bow to pressures to take a route that she knew would lead Britain even further from the prospect of success. That was not obstinacy, but sheer common sense. The tough measures which the Government had to introduce were the minimum needed to win through. "I will not change just to court popularity," Mrs Thatcher listed the contracts which had been won overseas and investments in Britain by overseas

companies. That was recovery. In an attack on the SDP, she said that if the country had never had all those nice Labour moderates it would never have had its problems in the first place. They were the guilty men. When the soft-centre SDP melted away they would be left with the hard shell of the Labour Party. Mrs Thatcher received a long and enthusiastic standing ovation. Cheering continued when she walked down the central aisle with the audience singing "Land of Hope and Glory".

One of the most revealing things about the rhetoric of the left is the almost total absence of any reference to the family. Yet the family is the basic unit of our society. It is within the family that the next generation is nurtured.

Our concern to create a property-owning democracy is therefore a very human concern. It is a natural desire for Conservatives that every family should have a stake in society and that the privilege of a family home should not be restricted to the few.

The fact that over 55 per cent own their own homes is a tribute to successive Conservative governments. Each one of which has helped to build — the property-owning democracy.

It is now our turn to take a major step towards extending home ownership to many more families. We have been deliberately excluded. Councils, particularly socialist councils, have been the main obstacle.

They love it because it gives them so much power. More than two million families have been excluded. Paying rent for ever. Paying rates and restrictions bringing enforced dependence. These are the marks of the last vestige of feudalism in Britain.

Parental rights on schools

It is the arrogance of the socialist creed to insist that they know best. For them, equality of opportunity means equality of outcome. More and more parents are becoming aware of this.

Nowhere is this more true than in education. For every family the chance to give to their children a better start than you had yourself is one of the greatest joys, yet we have been so obsessed with the reorganisation of education and with buildings and equipment that we have failed to concentrate on the quality and the content of what is taught in our schools.

What is this precisely what is of greatest concern to parents. That's why this Government has given them as much more say in the way schools are run. So much more choice in which schools to pick for their children. So much more responsibility for the next generation.

But the best schools and the best teachers are the best. Education will avail us nothing if we lack the means or the resolve to defend the way of life of our people.

For abroad this is a time of danger. We live in the Soviet Union, a power which has declared its aim is to bury Western Civilization. Experience has taught us that we must stand up to this threat as we have done so often in the past.

But order depends upon discipline; it is a discipline which we must teach our children. It is a discipline which we must teach our children. It is a discipline which we must teach our children.

We cannot defend ourselves, either in this island or in Europe without a close effective and warlike alliance with the United States. Our friendship with America rests not only on the memory of common dangers jointly faced. And even those who are here already know that we will be satisfied with a market of fifty million cabbages, cabined and confined by import controls, customs duties and tariffs. They will up-sticks and away. They will take their investments, their money, their jobs into the rest of Europe.

For the unspoken agreement behind policies of withdrawal from the Community and unilateral disarmament is that we should have more in everyone's pockets.

Public expenditure must be restricted because it would have more in everyone's pockets.

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Of course, there are those who promote success without tears. Who wish they were right. Who more than the Prime Minister would benefit from an easy answer to our troubles... (there was another interruption)... It makes it more exciting, like the Empire Loyalist when we were young and sitting down there.

If there were a way to beat inflation and unemployment while displacing no one in the meantime, I would like it like a shot.

I can tell you unhesitatingly that if I thought that Britain could solve her problems more easily, I found that world conditions opened up a less rugged road. I should not hesitate to take it. There would be no question of sticking doggedly to so-called dogma. I don't want to prove anything except that I am not a dog.

In the early days I worked well enough. In the 1950s a few million pounds of what we learned to call "reflation" earned a swift reward in jobs and output. But as time went on, the stimulus required grew larger; and the stimulus achieved grew less.

By the 1960s it was needing hundreds of millions of extra spending to lift some hundreds of thousands of people back into employment. By the 1970s we found that after thousands of extra millions had been spent we still had unemployment at levels which 10 or 20 years before would have been unthinkable.

The trick had been tried too often. The people, as earners and consumers, had stumbled. The government was doing its best. They knew the government was creating inflation. They took that into account in their wage demands, so all the extra money went into wages and prices and not into more jobs.

And so, today, if we were to heed the calls to add another thousand million pounds to our plans for spending, we might, perhaps, create an extra 50,000 jobs in two years' time. And even those would be all too swiftly cancelled out by the loss of other jobs in private industry as the result of what we had done to the economy.

For a good chunk of the higher taxes and higher interest rates needed to find the money for the extra spending would come from the tills of every business in the land.

Oh, but we are told, then don't put up the tax or the interest rates; put them down instead. In other words, print the money.

That way, I must tell you, lies a collapse of trust in sterling both at home and abroad; the destruction of the savings of every family. It leads to suitcase money and penny as the sole reward for thrift. That is not what this Government was elected to do.

These problems are not peculiar to Britain. Governments all over the world are seeking to borrow on a scale hitherto unknown and that is why only a few countries, every one of which has a strong financial centre have been rising steeply.

Indeed, if we had been members of the European monetary system we might very well have found our rates of interest go-

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The trick had been tried too often. The people, as earners and consumers, had stumbled. The government was doing its best. They knew the government was creating inflation. They took that into account in their wage demands, so all the extra money went into wages and prices and not into more jobs.

And so, today, if we were to heed the calls to add another thousand million pounds to our plans for spending, we might, perhaps, create an extra 50,000 jobs in two years' time. And even those would be all too swiftly cancelled out by the loss of other jobs in private industry as the result of what we had done to the economy.

For a good chunk of the higher taxes and higher interest rates needed to find the money for the extra spending would come from the tills of every business in the land.

Oh, but we are told, then don't put up the tax or the interest rates; put them down instead. In other words, print the money.

That way, I must tell you, lies a collapse of trust in sterling both at home and abroad; the destruction of the savings of every family. It leads to suitcase money and penny as the sole reward for thrift. That is not what this Government was elected to do.

These problems are not peculiar to Britain. Governments all over the world are seeking to borrow on a scale hitherto unknown and that is why only a few countries, every one of which has a strong financial centre have been rising steeply.

Indeed, if we had been members of the European monetary system we might very well have found our rates of interest go-

ing up long before this September. So that is why it is not a question of choosing between the conquest of inflation and the conquest of unemployment. Indeed, as one of our speakers reminded us yesterday: we are fighting unemployment by fighting inflation.

Of course, there are those who promote success without tears. Who wish they were right. Who more than the Prime Minister would benefit from an easy answer to our troubles... (there was another interruption)... It makes it more exciting, like the Empire Loyalist when we were young and sitting down there.

If there were a way to beat inflation and unemployment while displacing no one in the meantime, I would like it like a shot.

I can tell you unhesitatingly that if I thought that Britain could solve her problems more easily, I found that world conditions opened up a less rugged road. I should not hesitate to take it. There would be no question of sticking doggedly to so-called dogma. I don't want to prove anything except that I am not a dog.

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Egyptians launch another purge of extremists

From Christopher Walker, Cairo, Oct 16

The Egyptian security forces have launched a sweeping new wave of arrests against Muslim extremists which has involved the detention without trial of several hundred suspects during the past week.

Although by tonight there had been no official statement, reliable sources in Cairo put the total of fundamentalists taken in for questioning since President Sadat's assassination 10 days ago as somewhere between 800 and 1,000.

The latest arrests have taken place in all parts of the country, but most have been concentrated in Cairo, Alexandria and the southern provincial town of Assiut. They have been accompanied by the introduction of harsh new penalties for the possession of unlicensed firearms and for withholding information on subversives from the security forces.

The extent of the latest arrests has been so widespread that many extreme Muslim sympathizers have taken to shaving off their identifying beards in an effort to avoid detection. A number have also gone underground, a development which is worrying governments whose Middle East policy depends strongly on continuing stability in Egypt.

In addition to the arrest of suspected right-wing Muslim extremists, it is also understood that several dozen members of the small, left-wing National Unionist Front have also been detained. In the original purge 29 members of the party were arrested.

The latest arrests are seen as a clear indication that President Mubarak intends to pursue an even tougher line against opponents than that of his predecessor. It has also raised further questions about the reliability of Egypt's multi-party system. In an earlier television interview last week, Mr Mubarak—a self-confessed disciplinarian—said: "I will be very strict with anybody who thinks of creating trouble without any reason in this country."

Only weeks before Mr Sadat's assassination, he announced in a nationwide television broadcast that the Government had compiled a list of 7,000 extremists who had not been arrested in September's initial purge of nearly 1,600 critics of the Government. Of those listed, around 1,000 were fundamentalists.

The new clamp down coincides with the opening tomorrow of Egypt's 17 university campuses. For a number of years, the universities have been the breeding ground for Islamic fundamentalism. Now, an organization of so-called "university guards" has been formed by the authorities to enforce discipline on the campuses in cooperation with the university authorities.

Foreign observers regard the coming struggle to control fundamentalism inside the universities as crucial for the new Government's attempts to repress it countrywide.

Among those still detained after President Sadat's sweep six weeks ago is Mr Muhammad Elhelal, the distinguished Egyptian journalist and former confidant of the late President Nasser.

Little has been heard about Mr Elhelal or the other detainees since their arrests, and inquiries have produced no satisfactory official information. Recently the former editor of *Al-Ahram* made a formal request for health reasons to be allowed to drink bottled water rather than prison tap water.

From the moment of the 3 am arrest, sources close to Mr Elhelal have privately asserted his innocence of any crime, but have been unwilling to speak openly because of the climate of fear and suspicion encouraged by the purge. It is understood that members of his staff are now optimistic that the change in president may improve his chances.

After a gap of several weeks in the Socialist prosecutor's investigations into the Egyptians arrested in the purge, it was disclosed this morning that the process is to start up again tomorrow. An earlier official practice since the arrests, details of the planned "investigations" are sketchy but the authorities say they are expected to last until early next month. Already 410 of the detainees have been investigated and it is thought unlikely that all trials will begin until all individual investigations have finished.

Since Mr Hosni Mubarak was sworn in as President earlier this week, he has made no public reference to individuals arrested under the purge of his predecessor, and it is unclear how he will react to cases like Mr Elhelal's.



Reagan closer to success on Awacs

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, Oct 16

President Reagan now looks closer to gaining approval for his proposed sale of five early warning Awacs radar planes to Saudi Arabia than at any time since the deal was first notified to Congress. It was opposed by a margin of only one vote in the Senate foreign relations committee yesterday.

The sale is regarded as being of increased importance after the assassination of President Sadat as an integral part of the Administration's attempts to shore up the security of the Middle East and strengthen its links with moderate Arab states.

Meanwhile, military equipment is to be taken directly from United States stocks to be shipped to the Sudan, which is facing a potential threat from

Libya to speed up deliveries which otherwise would not be made until the equipment rolled off the production line. The intended sale of two F-15 fighter-jets had already been notified to Congress and the chairman of the House and Senate foreign affairs committees have in principle agreed to expediting the delivery of 20 M-60 tanks, tank transporters and a dozen 155-mm howitzers.

The Administration is also considering asking for an increase in the \$100m of military aid proposed for the Sudan for 1982.

Arms deliveries to Egypt were speeded up before the assassination. A Pentagon official said today that it was doubtful whether the Egyptian

armed forces could cope with any further acceleration.

The defeat on the Awacs sale in the Senate foreign relations committee by 9 votes to 8 was much smaller than had been expected. Senator co-sponsor of a resolution, Larry Pressler, a Republican originally carrying 50 signatures out of the 100 member Senate, changed his mind to vote for the sale, and uncommitted senators sided with the President. The Administration has lost the vote in the House by 301 to 111, but both houses have to oppose the deal to stop it.

Senator Howard Baker, the Republican majority leader today said: "We're still behind but we're definitely closing."

President plans to curb 'right to know'

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Oct 16

The Reagan Administration has introduced a series of proposals which would restrict the use of the Freedom of Information Act, a unique piece of American legislation designed to ensure the principle of the public's right to know about the background to big policy decisions.

The proposals would narrow the obligation of all government agencies to provide information about their internal operations, investigations and other activities. They would also limit requests for information under the Act to American citizens and resident aliens.

At present the Act allows anyone to request documents detailing government activities. This has led to complaints that foreigners have used the Act to gather information about American intelligence activities and industrial secrets.

Although a bill amending the Act does not give the CIA and other intelligence agencies the total immunity which they had requested, the Justice Department has indicated that such a proposal will be submitted separately.

Last month Mr William Casey, the director of the CIA, said that sensitive intelligence information had been released while the CIA was complying with the Act.

Testifying before the Senate subcommittee on the constitution yesterday, Mr Jonathan Rose, assistant attorney-general for legal policy, said the Act had been used in ways that were inconsistent with its original objectives.

Describing the Act as a "highly over-rated tool," he added that it was never intended to provide the KGB or a German industrialist with information about the United States.

Mr Rose said the Reagan Administration remained committed to carrying out the philosophy and the spirit of the Act. However Mr Jack Landau, director of the reporters' committee for freedom of the press, retorted that the proposed changes represented a "frontal assault on the Act."

Since the Act was introduced in 1966, and more particularly since it was amended in 1974 after the Watergate scandal, it has helped to bring to public notice a whole range of abuses by government agencies.

Japanese mine death toll climbs to 94

From Peter Hazelhurst, Tokyo, Oct 16

The Japanese authorities announced late tonight that 94 people, including 10 rescuers, died today when large clouds of lethal methane gas swept through a mine shaft 3,000ft below the entrance of a colliery in Yubari.

As rescue operations continued on the northern island of Hokkaido, 496 miles north of Tokyo, officials said more miners and rescuers were feared trapped in a maze of inclined shafts of the mine.

No explosion occurred, but all of the victims died as a result of gas poisoning, a spokesman for Japan's National Police Agency said.

The tragedy, described as one of Japan's worst mining disasters in a decade, began at noon when a monitoring station on the surface of the mine detected large quantities of gas seeping into a new shaft of the Hokkaido Colliery and Steamship Company in the mining town of Yubari.

All workers in the area were ordered to vacate the area immediately at about midday but 37 men were trapped.

Twenty-three men escaped immediately after one warning was issued but two miners who were hospitalized died later of gas poisoning, a spokesman for the company said.

Rescue teams, equipped with

masks and oxygen tanks, continued to retrieve bodies from the shaft throughout the afternoon. As operations continued throughout the night the police announced that 83 bodies had been recovered eight hours after the accident. The company says that 95 miners were working in the area when clouds of gas began to sweep through the shaft; but police claim about 122 men were in the shaft.

An undisclosed number of miners were being treated for gas poisoning in Yubari hospitals last night. "The density of the gas was as high as 35 per cent by mid afternoon and we were forced to pump large quantities of air into the shaft tonight," a spokesman for the company said.

Rescue workers said last night that some miners had managed to escape to shafts where they were able to cover themselves with airbags connected to oxygen pipes.

But the last shaft in the complex was littered with bodies. Their faces were contorted with fear and pain, a rescue worker said.

Yubari, one of Japan's major coal mining centres for the past century, has been the scene of several major disasters in recent years. In 1965, 62 miners were killed when a pocket of gas exploded in a large mine near the town.

AMSTERDAM CABINET RESIGNS

From Robert Schull, Amsterdam, Oct 16

Holland's five-week coalition Cabinet of Christian Democrats, Labour and Democrats' 66 members resigned today after an all-night session at which it became apparent that economic strategy could not be agreed on.

The coalition members clashed on the financing of an ambitious plan to combat unemployment put forward by Mr Joop den Uyl, the Socialist Deputy Prime Minister, and Social Affairs Minister.

Last minute compromise proposals put forward by Mr Andries van Agt, the Christian Democrat Prime Minister, were judged unacceptable by the Socialist Cabinet members, leading to a split. The six Christian Democrat ministers sided with the three Democrat 66 ministers against the Socialist ministers on the other.

Korchnoi scores first win

Moscow, Oct 16.—Viktor Korchnoi, the challenger for the world chess title, scored his first victory today in his match against Anatoly Karpov, the Soviet world champion.

Karpov, who resigned the adjourned sixth game without resuming play, leads the match 3-1, with two draws. The title goes for the next three games.

Chess grandmasters said the psychological impact of Korchnoi's win was all the greater because it was only the second time in 67 serious encounters that he had beaten Karpov with the black pieces.

Karpov notified Paul Klein, the chief arbiter, of his decision to abandon the game an hour before play was due to resume. But Korchnoi still faces an uphill task to wrest the title from his rival.

Korchnoi sealed his forty-first move in an envelope at the adjournment last night, poised to recover an earlier pawn sacrifice and break open the white king's defence for a winning attack. Overnight analysis with his seconds apparently convinced the Soviet world champion that his position was hopeless.

Sixth game

White Karpov. Black Korchnoi.

1 P-K4 P-K4

2 P-K3 P-K3

3 P-K3 P-K3

4 P-K3 P-K3

5 P-K3 P-K3

6 P-K3 P-K3

7 P-K3 P-K3

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Hatred from hunger spreading, Brandt warns world

From Peter Nichols, Rome, Oct 16

Herr Willy Brandt, the former West German Chancellor, reported today that the balance sheet of hunger at the point of departure for his statement today on hunger.

He was speaking at the ceremony marking the first World Food Day at the headquarters here of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. The ceremony commemorated the thirty-sixth anniversary of the founding of the organization.

Herr Brandt called on the international audience to do more than in the past to stop the senseless suffering and stop it from spreading still further.

"We have learned," he said, "that about 800 million people in the world live in a condition known by the experts as absolute poverty. Most of these people endure chronic hunger. The fact that no one seems able to quote anything like a precise figure heightens the awful truth underlying this universal suffering."

"Yet behind every digit in this total, however great it may be, lies the fate of a human being with a right to life, a right to unimpaired health and a right to an existence imbued with dignity; a human being who is playing a meaningful role in our human society, a human being who could take

part in the things which make life worthwhile."

"Instead of that, conditions have become so bad as to deny to an infinite number of people the simplest right which a man or a woman can have: the right to live."

Herr Brandt added a warning against the feeling of desperation and hatred which was now spreading among many people, who perceived that everything need not be the way it was. "Even in countries where people got enough to eat a sense of indignation was growing about the failure to take action, about the incompetence of governments and the complacency of bureaucrats, about the indifference of fellow humans. He said he could understand this mounting wave of indignation."

Speaking almost on the eve of the opening at Cancun in Mexico of the north-south summit conference, Herr Brandt asked that heads of state and governments give top priority to a global food programme. He was not, he said, pinning exaggerated hopes of the outcome of the conference.

"Nevertheless I appeal to all statesmen whether they take part in the Cancun conference or not, to create a level of willingness to negotiate which will lead us out of the North-South impasse."

Schmidt expected to return to work in Bonn tomorrow

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Oct 16

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, is expected to be back in Bonn on Sunday, only five days after his heart pacemaker operation, to grapple with his next big political problem.

If Herr Schmidt continues to recover, he will join leaders of the Social Democratic and Free Democrat coalition parties to discuss difficulties that have arisen with the 1982 budget, which was settled only in early September after much wrangling and at great political cost to the SPD.

The Finance Ministry now calculates that the picture for 1982 is blacker than previously expected and there will be a gap between income and spending which is variously reported at DM2,500m

and DM6,000m (£525m and £2,500m). It appears that, in order to keep the increase in government spending below 4.2 per cent as agreed, more unpopular cuts will be needed.

Herr Hans Matthöfer, the Finance Minister, will be in the Chancellor's office tomorrow, and sometime between then and the coalition talks on Sunday the Chancellor is expected to return to Bonn.

Herr Kurt Becker, the government spokesman, who spent an hour with the Chancellor today, said he looked relaxed and completely rested. He had also lost weight since he is able to maintain his diet better than usual.

Change of seats at UN

New York, Oct 16. — The composition of the United Nations Security Council changed last night, with Poland taking the place of East Germany. Other changes were Guyana taking the place of Mexico, Togo taking

Niger's seat, Jordan replacing the Philippines and Zaire replacing Tunisia. Remaining on the council with the permanent members, China, Russia, the US, Britain and France are Ireland, Japan, Panama, Spain, Uganda

Rain mars the Queen's walk-about

From Our Correspondent, Wellington, Oct 16

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, went on a walk-about in the windy, rain-swept streets of Wellington today. The crowds were small owing to the bad weather.

Nevertheless, the Queen set a leisurely pace chatting informally with many people among the 3,000 or so who had turned out to see their sovereign.

Earlier, the Queen bestowed

honours on 139 people in the flower-bedecked town hall. After the walk-about, the royal couple flew to Auckland, where they went on another "meet the people" walk-about.

Tonight, the royal visitors attended a gala concert performance.

Yesterday, the Queen invested Prince Philip with the first insignia of the Queen's Service Order to be awarded

Taiwan holds unification at bay

From Richard Hughes, Taipei, Oct 16

Taiwan's immediate and continuing reaction to Peking's latest approach to unification is best summed up by quote, ironically, from Chairman Mao's "thoughts": "When the fox seems friendly, put a second lock on the chicken house."

No one, of course, was surprised by the contemptuous rejection of the latest suggestions — first by Dr Sun Yat-sen, the President of the Republic, and then by President Chiang Ching-kuo and still being reiterated tediously, if significantly, by government representatives.

Dr James Soong, a government spokesman, was emphatic at one of his meetings with foreign pressmen: "Never shall we negotiate away from what we have — our freedom, our democracy and our prosperity. The Chinese Communists have been baiting their trap with offers which they dare not extend to the people under their own control."

"Our experience with the communists is long and bitter. The communists have never made peace and never kept their agreements. The case of Tibet is still vividly remembered. We must heighten our vigilance and keep our faith with the aspirations of all the Chinese people to be free. We shall beware of the Chinese Communists bearing false gifts and we urge the free world to do likewise."

The curious coincidence has been noted, however, that both the communists and the nationalists, looking ahead, do not dismiss the possibility of an agreement in the next 10 years.

Mr Deng Xiaoping, the party Vice-Chairman, has already said that "the Taiwan issue, like the economy and anti-Soviet hegemony, is a major task for the people in the next decade."

Agreement must eventually be reached between the Chinese on the mainland and on Taiwan in their own way and without foreign influence, a foreign diplomat in Taiwan predicted.

"The only risk is that, after the death of moderate old leaders, who have been backed to power, there might be another gang-of-four coup."

There is no discernible anti-American sentiment in Taiwan. The new director of the American Institute of Taiwan, which replaced the former American Embassy after Washington's recognition of Peking, is expected to be a Chinese-born member of the National Security Council, Mr James Lilley. He was special assistant to Mr George Bush, the American Vice-President, when Mr Bush directed the Central Intelligence Agency.

Dayan — the fighter who dreamed of peace



But he continued expounding his political views in writing and lectures.

Moshe Dayan, with the shiny black eye-patch on the left side of his pockmarked face, was a worldwide symbol of Israeli daring-do when he was captured by the Egyptian Forces in June 1967, trounced the Egyptians, Jordanians and the Syrians in a six-day campaign that made military history. Six years later, hysterical war widows and bereaved parents were spitting at him in Israeli streets, blaming him as Minister of Defence for the heavy losses when his bravely over-confident forces were caught flat-footed by the simultaneous Egyptian and Syrian attacks on Yom Kippur, 1973.

His spectacular career seemed then to have ended in a shambles but a few years later he rehabilitated himself remarkably in the improbable role of Foreign Minister in a Likud government, an office and a party with which he had been at loggerheads all his political life. He brought a unique dash, flair and courage to his office and played an essential role in the process that secured the peace treaty with Egypt which had eluded three governments for 30 years.

In September 1977 in Brussels, he slipped out of an official convoy that was escorting him to the airport for a flight to Washington to meet President Carter, and clandestinely boarded a private aircraft that took him to Rabat for a secret meeting with Mr Hassan Toubani, a confidante of President Sadat. The meeting had been arranged by King Hassan, and the Egyptian leader was concerned about the ascent of the hard line Mr Begin to power in Israel, but he assured him that the new Israeli Prime Minister, Menachem Begin, was already said that "the Taiwan issue, like the economy and anti-Soviet hegemony, is a major task for the people in the next decade."

Agreement must eventually be reached between the Chinese on the mainland and on Taiwan in their own way and without foreign influence, a foreign diplomat in Taiwan predicted. "The only risk is that, after the death of moderate old leaders, who have been backed to power, there might be another gang-of-four coup."

There is no discernible anti-American sentiment in Taiwan. The new director of the American Institute of Taiwan, which replaced the former American Embassy after Washington's recognition of Peking, is expected to be a Chinese-born member of the National Security Council, Mr James Lilley. He was special assistant to Mr George Bush, the American Vice-President, when Mr Bush directed the Central Intelligence Agency.

Dayan played a central role in the negotiations that led to a moderating influence in the Israeli delegation. In critical periods, he took initiative and showed the way to surmount impasses. In October 1978, when President Carter visited Jerusalem hoping to bring the warring sides to a meeting with Mr Begin, he was about to announce failure when Dayan took the initiative, arranged a summit meeting between President Sadat and Mr Begin, and the two leaders met for breakfast before the President's departure and helped resolve the issues.

Dayan hoped to follow up the peace treaty with Egypt with an accommodation with the Palestinian Arabs. He suggested that if they continued refusing to cooperate in the autonomous plan for the West Bank and Gaza, the Israelis should unilaterally remove the military government and install a local civilian administration. His ideas were rejected, but he was eased out of a negotiating role, so he resigned from the Government. He announced he would finish his term in Parliament but would never again seek re-election or political office.

Moshe Dayan was the son of pioneering immigrants from Russia who were among the founders of Degania, the first kibbutz, where Moshe was born May 20, 1915. The family later moved to Nahalal, a cooperative settlement in the Jezreel Valley. It was David Ben-Gurion, who led 14 of the illegal Hagannah Jewish self-defence organization, taking his turn at night guard duty during the Arab riots of 1923.

During the 1936 Arab riots, he was among picked Hagannah men entered as a supernumerary police to serve as scouts for British forces guarding installations, including the oil pipeline from Iraq to the refineries in Haifa. In that period, he served under Captain Orde Wingate, who later commanded the Chindits in the Far East. The British officer was one of three men Dayan credited with having the most profound influence on him. The others were David Ben-Gurion and Dr Ralph Bunche, whom he met in Rhodes during negotiations under United Nations auspices for armistice agreements in 1949.

In 1939, British military court sentenced Dayan to 19 years imprisonment for participating in a Hagannah company commanders' course. Two years later he was freed to put his illicit training at the disposal of the British in the region. He led a patrol and commando unit across the border to Lebanon in advance of the invading allied forces ordered to oust the Vichy French. His unit captured a strongpoint and set up a position on a roof. As Dayan lifted a telescope to locate enemy positions, a bullet hit the instrument and it lodged in his eye socket.

The loss of his eye did not prevent him from resuming service in the Hagannah. Wingate, who was killed in the underground surfaced in 1948 as the legitimate army of Israel, he was commissioned an officer. In the early fighting, he led reinforcements to Degania, his birthplace, and helped repel a Syrian drive to establish a bridgehead on the west bank of the Jordan River.

Later, as a major, he commanded one of the spectacular operations in the war. At the head of a column in open leaps, he dashed through the main streets of Lydda, shooting up the city in wild west fashion, and secured the country's vital railway junction for the Jewish state.

Dayan was chief of staff in

1956 when Israel conquered Sinai in a lightning raid in collusion with Britain and France, who were to have captured the Suez Canal which had been nationalized by President Nasser. His business and unconventional ability became world renowned.

Dayan terminated his active military service in 1958 and enrolled in the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, reading political science and Middle East studies. The following year he was elected to the Knesset on the Labour ticket and Mr Ben-Gurion named him Minister of Agriculture. When Mr Eshkol succeeded to the premiership, Dayan quit the Government because the new Prime Minister refused to give him a political portfolio and greater voice in policy making.

He followed Mr Ben-Gurion in leaving the Labour Party in 1966 and in forming the Rafi party which was opposed to the Eshkol government. He was thus an opposition deputy in May 1967 when Arab countries from Algeria to Iraq mobilized to attempt to crush the Jewish State.

Mr Eshkol, who held the defence portfolio, came under heavy pressure to transfer it to Dayan. The prime minister resisted but the pressure in parliament and in the street was irresistible. Five days after his appointment, the Israeli forces burst into Jordan and better armed Egyptian Army, and then in quick succession destroying the Jordanian and Syrian armies that went to Egypt's assistance. How much Dayan's personal leadership was responsible for the spectacular victory was debatable but he became the international symbol of the victory.

Immediately after the war, Dayan won another audacious gamble. He cleared the minefields, barbed wire, wrecks and firewalls which for 19 years had separated the warring Arab and Jewish sectors of Jerusalem and proclaimed every part of the reunited city open to free movement by the recent converts at any time of the day or night, without passes or checks or searches. Many thought Dayan was out of his mind.

Dayan had seemed a favourite to succeed the aging Mrs Golda Meir to the premiership, but the disastrous opening of the 1973 war destroyed his image. He was indeed cleared by a top-level inquiry commission of responsibility for the omissions in military deployment, but in the public mind he carried the opprobrium. When Mr Rabin became Prime Minister in 1974, he dropped Dayan from the Cabinet.

Dayan was 20 years old when he married Ruth Schwartz, daughter of a prominent Jerusalem settler. She died in 1958, leaving three children, Mrs Yael Sidi, and their sons Assaf and Uri. The couple divorced in 1971 and two years later, at the age of 57, Dayan married Mrs Rachel Koran, his friend and companion for many years.

His books which appeared in English were *Sinai Diary*, *The Day of the Life* and *Living with the Bible*.

Other obituaries, page 12

SECRETARIAL
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The marketing director of well known company is looking for a secretary with fluent French. Meet clients, make travel arrangements, answer inquiries, have fun! Speeds 90/60, Age 20-35, earn £6,000 neg. Interested? Phone Elizabeth Dean
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Court of Appeal

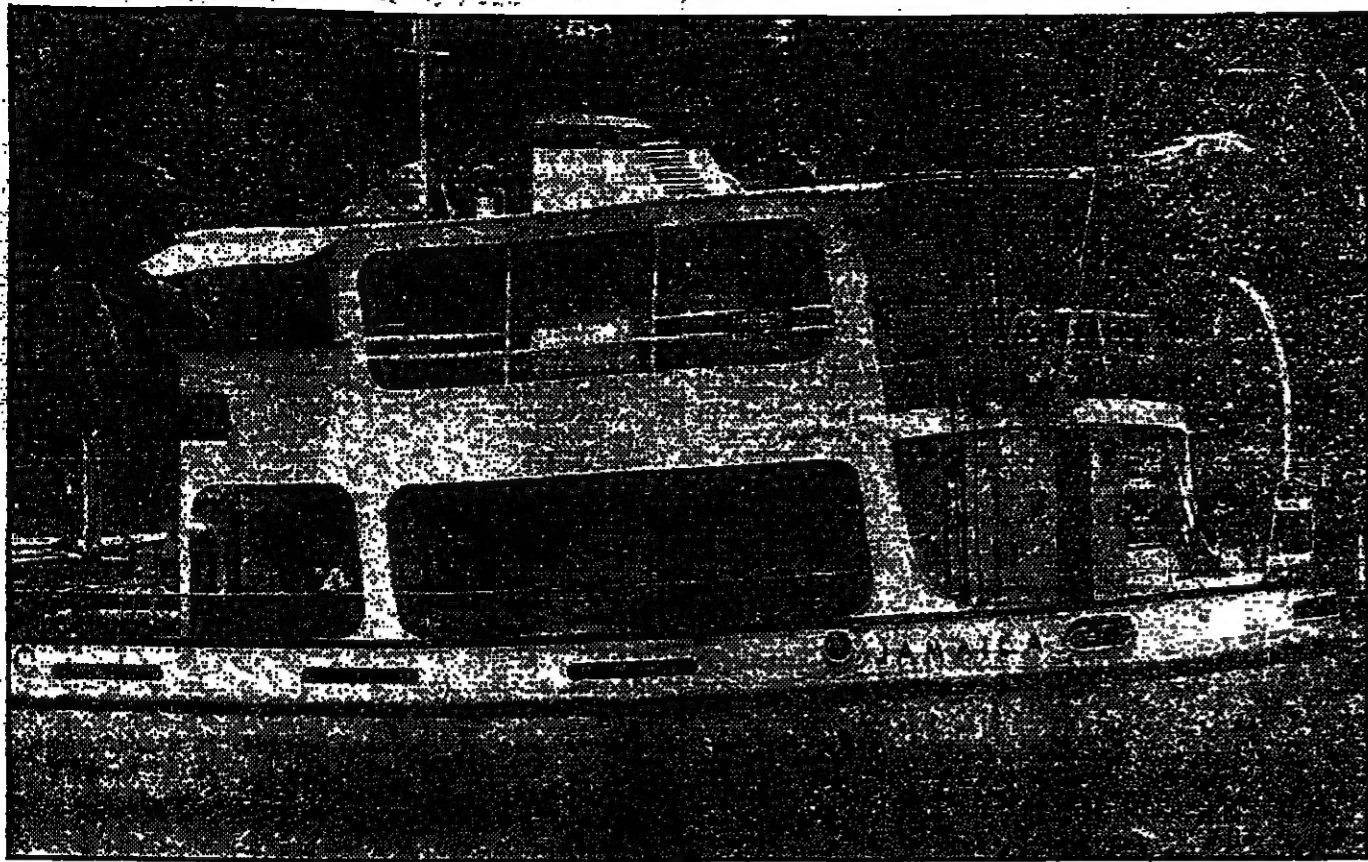
The meaning of 'seaworthy'

Actis Co Ltd v Sanko Steamship Co (The Aquacharm)
Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Shaw and Lord Justice Griffiths
[Judgment delivered October 15]
"Seaworthy" in the context of the Hague Rules charterparty means that a vessel with her master and crew is fit to encounter the perils of the voyage and fit to carry the cargo safely on that voyage.
The Court of Appeal in reserved judgments dismissed an appeal by charterers, the Actis Co Ltd, owners of the Liberian motorship Aquacharm, from the judgment of Mr Justice Lloyd on March 24, 1980 (1980) 2 Lloyd's Rep 237 holding, inter alia, that the Aquacharm was not unseaworthy on a voyage from Baltimore to Japan.
The appeal was stated to raise points of great importance in the shipping world and leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted.
Mr Nicholas Phillips, QC and Mr J. S. Phillips, QC, for the charterers, and Mr Stewart Boyd, QC, for the owners.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the owners let the Aquacharm to the charterers on a time charter to carry coal from Baltimore to Tokyo through the Panama Canal. The master took on 43,000 tons of coal which was too much for safety through the canal.
She had to discharge 636 tons into another vessel which followed the Aquacharm through the canal after which the 636 tons were reloaded. The delay being the Aquacharm for almost nine days.
The hire for the extra time came to \$86,344. The charterers invoked the "off-hire" clause to excuse them from paying. His Lordship agreed with the umpire.

Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, sitting in the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) with Mr Justice Mustill and Mr Justice McCullough announced on October 16 the making of a Practice Direction with the concurrence of the Lord Chancellor under sections 4(5) and 5(4) of, and Schedule 10 to, the Courts Act 1971. The direction, which was issued by a judge of the Crown Court in paragraph 15 in Practice Direction: Crime (Crown Court Business) (1971) 1 WLR 1535, provides:
15(1)(a) Notice of intention to apply for bail shall be given to the appropriate officer at the location of the Crown Court where the proceedings in which the application for bail arises took place or (b) Where a person gives notice in writing that he wishes to apply for bail and requests that the bail be granted, the application shall be heard at the location of the Crown Court where the proceedings in which the application for bail arises took place or (c) Where a person gives notice in writing that he wishes to apply for bail and requests that the bail be granted, the application shall be heard at the location of the Crown Court where the proceedings in which the application for bail arises took place or (d) Where a person gives notice in writing that he wishes to apply for bail and requests that the bail be granted, the application shall be heard at the location of the Crown Court where the proceedings in which the application for bail arises took place or (e) Where a person gives 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JAMAICA



An inter-island cargo boat, used mainly for shipping fruit, moored at Port Antonio, Portland County.

A quiet switch to capitalism

Jamaica is an island in transition. Last October, after eight years of modest and unsuccessful socialism, it performed a classic U-turn and voted in a conservative pro-American Government. The revolution has been postponed, and Jamaicans are watching to see if they made the right choice.

Jamaica is full of contrasts. The faded opulence of Beverly Hills, the most exclusive suburb in Kingston, the capital, looks out over blue Kingston Bay and the waterfront shacks of packing cases and rusted iron. The luxury tourist hotels, the cocktail parties and barbecues, the smart insurance offices of uptown Kingston, the sophisticated comedies in Kingston's lively middle class theatres, coexist with the dreadlocked Rastafarian and the hill farmer scratching a living from illegal marijuana.

The green mountains that rear up behind the capital towards the 7,402-foot Blue

Mountain peak give way suddenly to canefields, bauxite mines and white beaches. Jamaica's 4,240 mountainous square miles are among the most beautiful in the Caribbean, and its 2.2 million people among the most warm, inventive, volatile — and politicized.

But the transition they are now making is a dramatic change from heady defiance of western economic power to quiet alliance with it.

A year ago, the island's two union-based parties — were battling it out in Kingston with fury unprecedented even in Jamaica. Some 857 people were shot dead last year, most of them in the capital by gunmen armed with machine guns against which police revolvers were a poor match.

The then Prime Minister, Mr Michael Manley, insisted that Jamaica's attempt to choose its own development path was being thwarted by the Americans and the International Monetary Fund and

that the Central Intelligence Agency was destabilizing the Government because Jamaica had the cheek to make its own friends. The opposition Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) claimed that Mr Manley was a power-crazed totalitarian bent on delivering Jamaica into the communist camp, an incompetent who had run the economy into the ground and visited untold sufferings on his people.

On October 30 Mr Edward Seaga, the leader of the JLP, was swept into power by 51 seats to 9, more than reversing Mr Manley's popular majority. He has since been persuading the international community that Jamaica's flirtation with socialism and its admiration for Cuba are over and that free enterprise and foreign investment are the order of the day.

The political violence has died down, though gun murders are still uncomfortably frequent in Kingston. The shops are filling again, the

atmosphere is noticeably more relaxed, and some of the people who left during the seventies are trickling back. "We did not eradicate the revolutionists altogether," says a taxi driver with relish, "but we have them under control."

Mr Manley has had an almighty tussle with his party and emerged only slightly bloodied as its continued leader, the party's left wing for the moment tamed and his own centre faction in the ascendant. He accepted responsibility for the PNP's defeat, which he ascribes to the violence, the IMF, and the JLP's anti-Communist campaigning. Still very popular on a personal level, and loudly eschewing any Marxist connections, he has returned to union work and journalism, writing for the *New York Times*, *South Magazine*, and the *Sunday Press* in Barbados and Trinidad.

"People realize there's not going to be any overnight

miracle," says a senior Jamaican diplomat. "They're ready to work, and give Seaga a chance. Only if Seaga fails to produce results will there be a backlash." As Prime Minister Mr Seaga is taking a tough law and order line against the gunmen, strengthening the police walloping back the tourists and courting foreign investment.

At 51, he is a cool, rather aloof, conservatively dressed figure, married to a former Miss Jamaica, with three children. He has represented run-down West Kingston in Parliament for 18 years, 10 of them as a minister, and inspires warmth mainly for his record in housing development and the arts. Where Mr Manley was an orator, Mr Seaga is a statistician, with no pretence to his predecessor's charisma. Jamaica voted for a manager, but deep down little has been solved.

A British colony for over 300 years, Jamaica developed a stable two-party system, independent trade unions and a vociferous and articulate Press long before independence in 1962. But it never produced enough to make ends meet: growth was based on economic dependence, the price for which was growing inequality, unemployment and social alienation, marked most dramatically by the rise of the Rastafarian movement and Jamaica's own music, Reggae, brought to international prominence by artists like Bob Marley and Peter Tosh.

Mr Manley's arrival in power in 1972 with overwhelming support marked the start of overdue reforms, among them job and literacy programmes, land reform, food subsidies, price control, free education, equal pay for women and minimum wages. He took control of the bauxite industry and increased Jamaica's take eightfold.

The island rode the early storms, including the 1973 oil crisis. But in 1974 Mr Manley died the label "Democratic Socialist" to his reform programme and edged closer to the socialist world in general and Cuba in particular.

Warning lights flashed in Jamaica's powerful middle class business sector and western capitals. Foreign capital inflows started to dry up, bauxite production was cut by 35 per cent in 1975/6, hostile American press crippled the tourist industry and new loans became impossible to find. There was a flight of local skills and capital, which Mr Manley failed to stop in time. A wave of arson and violence erupted in Kingston and the ensuing balance of payments crisis forced Jamaica to go to the IMF.

Its first two-year standby agreement collapsed after five months when the economy failed to reach the required performance test. A second three-year extended Fund agreement came in 1978, prepared for by massive devaluation and involving new taxes, the lifting of price controls, a wage freeze, public service retrenchment and a severe dampening of demand.

The programme undermined the credibility of the government, and alienated its support, plunging the party into endless internal wrangling. The social effects were drastic: real wages fell 35 per cent in 1978 alone.

The second agreement collapsed in failure too, Jamaica's balance of payments deficit widened by \$40m in 1978 and another \$78m in 1979. At the end of that year the IMF demanded \$300m in budget cuts, representing 11,000 jobs, as the price for a new agreement.

Mr Manley, having subjected Jamaica to harsh austerity without achieving the promised economic relief, called elections more than a year early, demanding a decision — the JLP's capitalist path or the PNP's reforms. The rising violence and personal deprivation dictated the answer.

There are plenty of reminders that that choice remains, however reassuring the filling beaches and hotels may be. One is the fact that ganja, or marijuana, earning more than \$1,000m a year, more than bauxite and tourism combined. The island's 30 or more mountain airstrips are America's second biggest supply source, and "almost a lifeline economically" according to Mr Seaga last year.

Another is the counter culture of the Rastafarians, which is now spreading rapidly through the Caribbean. The movement's core, which first dreamed Marcus Garvey's dream of a promised land in Ethiopia for the black diaspora 50 years ago, still accepts the divinity of the late Emperor Haile Selassie. But its offshoots, now including perhaps one in 10 Jamaicans, uses ganja routinely and defies conventional society through dress, hairlocks, manner and language.

Jamaica's reggae millionaire, Bob Marley was Rastafarian, and was given a state funeral in Kingston after he died of cancer last May. The Rastafarians are now too powerful a force to be ignored. Mr Manley and Governor-General Sir Florizel Glasspole read lessons, and Mr Seaga delivered a eulogy. It remains to be seen whether Mr Seaga's management can answer Marley's loud and angry protests: "Them belly full but we hungry — a hungry mob is an angry mob, a pot a cook but the food not enough".

Jeremy Taylor

Sympathy, minus the strings

by a Special Correspondent

The first official visitor to arrive at the White House in Washington after President Ronald Reagan's inauguration in January was Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga, and the symbolism was not lost on the Caribbean.

Mr Reagan himself clearly welcomed the emergence of a Jamaican leader sympathetic to his own world view. He commented on Seaga's 51.9 election victory: "It was the turnover, the turnaround, of a nation that had gone certainly in the direction of the communist movement. It was a kind of protégé of Castro, and his (Seaga's) election was greeted by me with great enthusiasm."

The Caribbean Left has been quick to label Seaga "Washington's man in the Caribbean", a view Seaga resents as a slur on his nationalist and regional commitment. But there is no doubt that Messrs Seaga and Reagan quickly found an affinity based on a shared anti-Communism. One of Mr Seaga's first official actions was to send the Cuban ambassador, Senator Ulises Estrada, back to Havana. Senator Estrada had been fiercely criticized by Mr Seaga's Jamaica Labour Party during campaigning for allegedly meddling in Jamaican affairs by siding with Mr Michael Manley's ruling People's National Party.

Mr Seaga also closed the "Brigadista" programme under which young Jamaicans were trained in Cuba in construction and technical skills, claiming that the programme had been used to indoctrinate Jamaicans. Mr Hugh Shearer, the foreign minister, insists that Jamaica's foreign policy has not changed, that Jamaica remains committed to the Third World, a new international economic order, North/South dialogue and the non-aligned movement, or at least "genuine non-alignment... The new Jamaican Government is prepared to have relations with the governments of all countries provided they do not interfere in our internal affairs or pursue policies of apartheid."

Jamaica has made no move to cut ties with socialist trading partners, and in September hosted a Cuban trade mission. But, says a senior Jamaican Diplomat, "the emphasis is different. It's business as usual, but

much more business-like." The advent of Mr Seaga certainly signals a radical change of emphasis. During the seventies, his predecessor, Mr Manley developed an aggressive internationalist position that antagonized the Americans. He wanted to control American transnational corporations, redistribute wealth, give more emphasis to the public sector and less to the private. He came to admire Dr Fidel Castro, particularly after visiting the Cuban leader in 1975. He became a leading light in the non-aligned movement and the socialist international, a leading proponent of international economic reform, and supported Cuba's military presence in Angola and Puerto Rico's right to independence. Mr Manley's defeat was thus predictably welcome in Washington, where he was regarded as too soft on communism to be a reliable ally. Mr Seaga by contrast has been making all the right signals. He linked Jamaica from the start with American economic and political interests, and began to attack Cuba and the communist threat in familiar terms. He opened the Jamaican economy to foreign investment and made it clear he was on the path to free enterprise land away from state intervention economy. He began courting transnational investors.

Mr Seaga's hard anti-communist line quickly made itself felt at home in Jamaica. He embarked on a purge on left-wing staff at the Government's Agency for Public Information and at the state-owned Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation which had tended to support the Manley Government. *The Daily News*, which had also been sympathetic to Mr Manley, was put up for sale.

Government spokesmen have attributed labour unrest to leftist elements at work in the island, and have repeatedly warned that security forces have evidence of left-wing subversion and planned terrorism. The allegation was repeated by Winston Spaulding, the security minister, in Parliament in September, and was rejected by Dr D. K. Duncan, leader of the opposition PNP's left wing, as an attempt to divert attention from the failure of the Government's economic recovery plan and to link the PNP with subversion.

continued on next page

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Jeremy Taylor examines the likely effects of the new Government's return to free enterprise

Waiting for the economic miracle

It was not his pro-western ideology but his reputation as a financial wizard that swept Mr Edward Seaga, the Prime Minister, into power in Jamaica last October.

During the 1950s and 1960s the economy had become heavily dependent on foreign capital inflows for its growth. The programme of social reform and wealth distribution begun by Mr Michael Manley in 1972 dried up the flow of capital and destroyed confidence in and out of Jamaica.

By 1980 Jamaicans had been through eight years of negative growth, falling living standards, rising prices and unemployment and commodity shortages. Two agreements with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) collapsed within four years and the island was riven by political violence and the anti-communist campaign of Mr Seaga's Jamaica Labour Party (JLP). "The poor can't take no more" said graffiti all over Kingston while the JLP promised "deliverance is near".

Thus, after voting overwhelmingly in 1972 and 1976 against the JLP model of dependent capitalist development with its emphasis on foreign investment and transnational corporations, Jamaicans wanted deliverance in 1980 from economic pressure and social upheaval. Mr Seaga inherited an almost bankrupt economy and now seeks to return to unfettered free enterprise, to recapture the capital inflows and investment, and to establish Jamaica as an attractive offshore manufacturing centre for the American market. "The resource base of the English speaking Caribbean is too narrow," he argues. "Capital has to flow from outside."

The foundation for this strategy, a new IMF agreement was laid in April with a three year extended fund facility of \$650m plus \$49m in compensatory financing. Mr Seaga managed to get conspicuously better terms than Mr Manley, with no further devaluation (Mr Manley was forced into total devaluations of 49 per cent), no compulsory wage limits (though Mr Seaga is holding firm on a 9 per cent public sector maximum against union resentment) and no programme cancellations. Price and import controls and government subsidies are being gradually removed, sparking painful increases in rents and howls of pain from a private sector facing new competition.

Mr Seaga's 1981-82 budget in May worth Jamaica \$2.5bn (US\$1.2bn), made no concessions on deregulation, insisting that prices must find their own levels and that money-losing state enterprises must be pruned or sold off. The IMF seal of approval has opened the way to capital inflows of nearly \$1bn this year: \$308m from the IMF, \$450m from multilateral institutions including the World Bank and the Caribbean Group for Cooperation in Economic Development, \$50m from the United States and \$71m from a consortium of commercial banks.

In June Mr Seaga negotiated the refinancing of \$103m in public sector debts. Mr Seaga has thus won Jamaica a breathing space in which to produce deliverance. He exudes optimism, arguing

that the new inflows show a return of international confidence. The first solid claims of recovery came from the National Planning Agency (NPA) in September, which declared that negative growth had been halted and the base laid for "substantially improved economic performance". Gross domestic growth this year would be over 1 per cent less than Mr Seaga's hoped for 3 per cent but much better than last year's 5.4 per cent decline.

The NPA claims that prices are rising more slowly — 0.6 per cent in the first six months of 1980 compared with 12.4 per cent last year. Inflation last year was 28.6 per cent, after a 1979 peak of 49.4 per cent. The NPA also claims that the investment climate has improved and that unemployment is falling. By September their had been nearly 500 new investment proposals worth over \$51.5bn, about three quarters from overseas, and over a dozen had been implemented.

But while Mr David Rockefeller, who heads the US business committee on Jamaica (others are lobbying in Canada, Britain, Venezuela and Puerto Rico) has reported an overwhelmingly enthusiastic response from American corporations, big investors seem to be holding back to see if Mr Seaga and the IMF can produce recovery without social chaos. In May Mr Seaga predicted new investment worth US\$4.6bn.

The Jamaican private sector is not too happy with the speed of recovery since new foreign exchange for raw material and equipment supplies is only slowly becoming available. At the Bank of Jamaica long lines of foreign exchange applicants are grilling beneath posters urging them to "get that citizen's smile". The lifting of import controls has provoked some lay-offs and closures and loss of jobs. The island's largest unions oppose the IMF programme, designed to raise growth to 5 per cent in three years, though Mr Seaga has so far avoided serious industrial action over wage restraint and his freeze on public sector recruitment.

A lot of faith is being placed in manufactured, especially non traditional, exports ranging from furniture to processed foods. "We are very well placed now with incentives and exporter services," says Mr Peter King, director of the Jamaica National Export Corporation (JNEC). "We're waiting for the action, we have a beautiful sausage machine but we're still short of meat."

Overall exports have grown by 11 per cent this year and the JNEC has produced a national export plan — widely accepted through still unofficial — which calls for priority for highest growth potential products and streamlining of foreign exchange and import licence constraints. Highpowered trade missions, including one to West Germany this month, are seeking new markets in Europe, Britain and North America.

So far, Jamaica has had luck with its major commodity exports. Bauxite, of which it is the world's second largest producer, is the island's largest foreign exchange earner, barring the

illegal marijuana trade, and a major expansion of the industry was planned for the 1980s. This year began well with a 6.3 per cent rise in shipments and refining in six months. But all five companies in Jamaica — Kaiser, Reynolds, Alcoa, Alcan and Anaconda — have now announced production cutbacks in the face of a soft world market and the Jamaica Bauxite Institute is predicting 1981 production at only 11.75 to 11.95m tonnes, below last year's 11.99m, which was the highest since 1974.

Mr Seaga had hoped to persuade the companies to return to earlier levels of 15m tonnes, and to earn US\$45m more this year from the bauxite levy which earned Jamaica US\$209m last year. But the rise in demand has not materialized and the companies are anxious for a reduction in the levy which Mr Seaga criticized in opposition but dare not cut now because of the impact on the economy.

Agriculture has been badly hit by storm and flood damage in recent years. Last year Hurricane Allen — virtually wiped out the banana industry, and shipments to the protected British market only resumed in mid-1981 and will reach less than half their 1979 level. Jamaica is planning to increase supplies from 70,000 to 150,000 tons by the mid-eighties, worth £50m. But in the fall, rival Central and Latin American producers have seduced British housewives with fruit that is

better looking but, the Jamaicans say, worse tasting. "Britain is being very kind and helpful in getting us back in business," says Mr John Fan air traffic High Commissioner in London. "But we have to modernize our industry and improve the appearance of our fruit, and that is costing a fortune." United Brands are helping to upgrade the industry.

This year's sugar harvest of 201,000 tonnes was the smallest in 40 years and the industry is losing money fast. There are some hopes for raising production to 330,000 tonnes by 1984 but that depends on radical restructuring and new investment. Tate and Lyle have offered to run the industry for seven years but are unlikely to be accepted.

It was not until May that

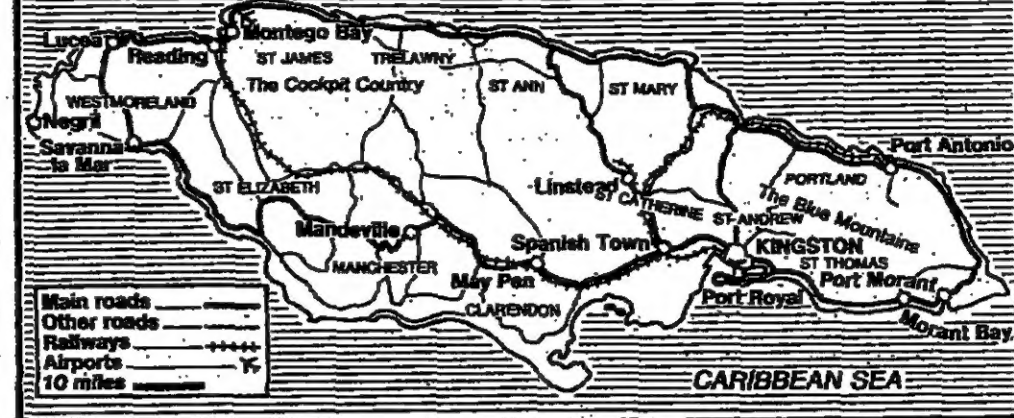
the figures showed a recovery: July and August arrivals were about 18 per cent above last year and bookings for the coming winter season are promising, though the American Airlines controllers' strike and continuing international recession have slowed recovery, as have the effects of 1980's hurricane Allen which swept part of the North Coast. One hotel was engulfed, another had its two beaches piled nearly above its beach bar.

But Mr Edward Seaga, the Prime Minister, has set his heart on winning back the tourists and expanding the industry over the next three years. "Tourist arrivals fell to 450,000 last year," says Mr John Gendles, Director of Tourism. "But we are going to increase that to 650,000 by 1983, earning perhaps \$400 million."

The new government has set up a Ministry of Tourism and ran a personal message from the Prime Minister in the American press headlined "I extend a warm welcome to the people of America". About \$334.5m, twice last year's budget, is being spent on what Mr Gendles calls an "advertising blitz" moving from the Midwest to New York and the East Coast, as well as Britain, Europe and Venezuela. "Come back to Jamaica, your new island home," croon the commercials.

American conventions held in Jamaica are now tax deductible, a move the Government hopes will revive lost convention traffic.

J.T.



The answer lies in the soil

While the popular tourist image of Jamaica is of bleached white beaches, vividly coloured flowers, rum punch and Rastafarian magic, the island's economic survival and future growth is based firmly in the soil.

For just below the surface are estimated reserves of more than 2,000m tonnes of metal grade bauxite, the raw material for aluminium. Apart from tourism, these huge ore deposits represent Jamaica's only major foreign currency earner.

They also explain the presence on the island of the big North American aluminium companies and the importance attached by the United States to Jamaica's political scene. Aluminium is regarded in the United States, as elsewhere, as a strategic metal on a par with vanadium and cobalt.

The significance of bauxite to the Jamaican economy is further marked by the fact that the Prime Minister, Mr Edward Seaga, is also Mining Minister.

Since he ousted Mr Michael Manley's government last year, the more moderate Mr Seaga has attempted to alleviate Jamaica's severe shortage of foreign exchange by planning a big rise in bauxite output and in downstream operations. But the big corporations are reluctant to expand bauxite purchases at a time of world over-capacity caused by the world recession.

Aluminium is one of the world's most commonly found metals, accounting for about 10 per cent of the earth's crust, but the richest sources — bauxite — are located mainly in Third World countries. The metal can be extracted from almost any type of clay, but the grades of bauxite as mined in Jamaica are the most highly prized.

The reduction process which ends with a silvery ingot of primary aluminium begins by refining raw, rust coloured bauxite into alumina, a dry white powder which contains two parts aluminium and three parts oxygen. At the smelter, using vast amounts of energy, the metal is "unlocked" from the alumina in a reduction process that was discovered less than 100 years ago.

As the result of aluminium's astonishing lightness, strength, non corrosiveness and ease of recycling, it became the "wonder metal" of the twentieth century.

Jamaica, after Australia one of the world's leading exporters of bauxite and alumina, has sufficient reserves to last well into the twenty-first

century at current extraction rates but it is only in the last seven years that its politicians have been able to exploit the island's riches.

In the mid-1970s, in the hope of copying the success of the oil exporting nations, bauxite producers banded together to form the International Bauxite Association, a cartel with the aim of forcing the metal producers to pay a price for their raw material allied to the international selling price of aluminium ingot.

Creation of the IBA, controlling 75 per cent of the non-communist world's bauxite output, was a further manifestation of the underdeveloped countries' awakened desire to win what they considered a more just share of the profits made from their resources by the rich and expanding corporations of the industrialized nations.

Unilaterally, Jamaica imposed massive increases on its bauxite levy in 1974, and under Mr Manley's guidance began to negotiate agreements for the partial state takeover of the aluminium companies' huge land holdings.

Looking for expansion

The island has also encouraged the establishment of alumina plants as a method not only of creating jobs but also to add value to the bauxite. The government's latest venture is the building of a 600,000 tonnes per year refinery on the south coast.

Clearly, though the returns from bauxite are more immediate and involve substantially lower capital investment, Mr Seaga is keen to expand alumina refining and has had discussions this year with the multinational companies with stakes in the island's bauxite — Alcoa, Kaiser, Reynolds and Anaconda.

Output from Jamaica's alumina refineries in 1980 was an estimated 2.45m tonnes, with 12.15m tonnes of bauxite mined. And after the first three months of this year the bauxite business was looking healthy. Bauxite output was up by 23 per cent on a year earlier and alumina exports rose by almost 45 per cent.

Earlier this year, the Jamaicans reopened negotiations with the Soviet Union over a contract to supply vast quantities of alumina, beginning in 1983 and extending over a seven-year period, which would come from the new state refinery. The Jamaican government wanted the deal to last for 10 years and the

figures showed a recovery: July and August arrivals were about 18 per cent above last year and bookings for the coming winter season are promising, though the American Airlines controllers' strike and continuing international recession have slowed recovery, as have the effects of 1980's hurricane Allen which swept part of the North Coast. One hotel was engulfed, another had its two beaches piled nearly above its beach bar.

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J.T.



Credit seals the trade links

With the announcement in July that the Export Credit Guarantees Department (ECGD) was backing a \$11m line of credit by Grindlay's Bank of Jamaica, both Jamaican manufacturers and British exporters to the island collectively breathed a sigh of relief. For tucked away at the end of the official notice was the first indication that ECGD were prepared to offer "a very limited amount" of cover for periods not exceeding five years. Some-thing once unthinkable by ECGD since early 1979.

Now limited this medium-term credit is, remains unclear, but it is understood that cover has already been considered for at least one quite sizable shipment to Jamaica.

The decision to back Grindlay's line of credit and to offer a medium-term cover came after a concerted lobby, principally organized by the influential London-based West India Committee, had emphasized and ultimately convinced British politicians and officials of the economic and political importance of Jamaica's recovery, both for the Caribbean and in terms of Western strategy. But in spite of this it is clear that ECGD remain wary and will be closely monitoring the administration and repayment of the credits by the Jamaica Export Credit Insurance Corporation. Officials indicate that it will be on this basis that fresh, and possibly larger-term cover will be provided in the future.

The Grindlay's credit now runs in parallel to the two loan agreements reached between the British and Jamaican Governments earlier this year, which provide a balance of payments assistance for the purchase of British goods. The agreements, for £5m and £5m, however, expire in 1982 and it is unclear whether Britain will renew them, as it is known that certain British Conservative politicians feel that there should be a time limit to Britain's support for the island.

Whether the restoration of cover will have the hoped-for effect of restoring British exporter confidence only time will tell. For according to official British Government figures, exports to Jamaica — principally vehicles, metal machinery and equipment — fell to a five-year low in 1980 at £33.1m, a considerable decline over the £44.7m recorded in 1979 and substantially less than the £80.6m of 1976. However, exports — predominantly bauxite, sugar, bananas, beverages and coffee — remained relatively strong at £95.5m in 1980, registering an increase on 1979's figure of £82m.

Though it seems likely that as the island's manufacturing sector begins to recover there will be new opportunities for British exporters of, in particular, machinery and semi-manufactures, growth will in all probability be slow, if the island's economic recovery continues at its present pace. For while the ECGD's renewal of cover goes some way towards satisfying Jamaica's concern about recreating a favourable environment in which to develop trade with Britain, many Jamaican and British businesses may not have forgotten their experience with the island's economic downturn which has left the metal producers sitting on a 2.5m-tonne stockpile of unsold aluminium.

Both Alcoa and Alcan have announced reductions in bauxite refining operations in Jamaica. Alcoa, the world's largest aluminium producer, cut its Jamaican refining by 20 per cent at its 550,000 tonnes per year plant in the centre of the island and blamed slack demand and the growth of recycling.

The Alcan cutback was made worse for the Jamaicans when the Norwegian companies decided in July this year to delay indefinitely their participation in a major expansion of the refinery. The idea was that Norsk Hydro, Ardal of Svalbard and Elkem would join with the Jamaican government in owning 49 per cent of the \$360m expansion, with the remaining 51 per cent going to Alcoa. But the deal ran into difficulties over who should provide the technology for the plant and the amount of levy that should apply to its output.

The aluminium companies have, in fact, been surprised by Mr Seaga's attitude to the bauxite levy. Earlier this year, the Prime Minister hinted that the tax might be reduced substantially but suggested later that mining and refining operations on the island should be expanded.

In 1980, the levy was cut from its original level of 7.5 per cent of the average US aluminium ingot price to 7 per cent and the American producers were hoping that a reduction to about 5.5 per cent would be possible.

In support of their pressure for tax cuts, the producers can point to the results of surveys such as that recently published by *Australian Mineral Economics* which concluded that world bauxite capacity will increase from 110.6m tonnes to 161.7m tonnes per year by 1985 of which up to 26m tonnes could be excess to requirements.

Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

Out of this anxiety has come a series of proposals for a broad US Caribbean alliance. A democratic front against communist penetration. The idea has taken several forms and is still hazy: it began as a Caribbean "Marshall Plan" through which \$300m in aid would flow into the Caribbean to strengthen vulnerable economies. In May in a speech in Miami Mr Seaga advocated a grand fraternal way of democratic parties to help stem the flow of "alien ideologies", a pro-American version of the Socialist International.

five years ago. Though both Tate and Lyle and the Fyffes Group have indicated their interest in investing heavily in programmes that will develop sugar cane and banana production, it remains to be seen whether the companies' proposals can be implemented by government in the face of the challenge such plans offer to the economic and political manner in which both industries are currently organized.

As far as Britain is concerned it is questionable whether trade with Jamaica will ever reach pre-1979 levels. For the exceptional emphasis placed on assisting Jamaica through private investment, aid and trade preferences by President Reagan himself, seems likely to push the island still further towards stronger linkages with the United States.

In 1979 the United States accounted for 45.95 per cent of all exports to Jamaica compared to Britain's 19.79 per cent while on the imports front the United States purchased 31.47 per cent of Jamaican goods compared with the 10.2 per cent which came to Britain.

But that is not to say that officials and senior businessmen in Britain are not conscious of the need to assist in the island's recovery. At the forefront of the moves is the British Jamaica Committee which like its American, Canadian and Venezuelan counterparts seeks to promote and assist the island's recovery, which consists of 15 of Britain's most influential corporate and institutional chairmen and managing directors involved in trade in the Caribbean basin. It has five main objectives:

First it aims to reinforce commercial relations existing between Jamaica and Britain. Second it intends to focus British business interests on investment opportunities in Jamaica. Third it aims to help to attract interest in the island's Export Free Zone and develop the further use of Kingston's transshipment port. Finally it is aiming to extend levels of British Jamaica trade and technological transfers as well as cooperation between financial institutions and in the area of transport.

Already the committee has had its first meeting under the joint chairmanship of John Fringle, the Chairman of John Fringle, a director of Rothmans International. It expects to take an active role in encouraging British business to "think Jamaican" in the months ahead.

But, despite all this public optimism many companies involved in trading with or investing in Jamaica privately admit to having serious reservations about whether Mr Seaga and his Government will be able to make the island's economy work.

Though they decline to be identified, a number of major British companies express fears that policies inflicting within the Jamaica Labour Party, bureaucratic inactivity, conflicting decisions and increased trades unions pressure are delaying the acceptance and implementation of investment plans. Some are concerned about the longer-term viability and security of their proposed investments.

It now remains to be seen whether Mr Seaga can mobilize his considerable administrative skills to, as he puts it, revive the Jamaican economy from the dead in a manner which will give potential exporters and investors confidence that they will see a return on their capital.

David Jessop

Sympathy but without strings

The idea is still being discussed in the Caribbean Basin aid programme, though the US favours bilateral flows to individual private sectors, a structure which would isolate left leaning states like Grenada, and which may not gain much support in the Caribbean. Apart from acting as regional spokesman for the Caribbean Basin plan, Mr Seaga has made no new initiatives in the region itself except for an offer to mediate in the border dispute between Guyana — a fellow member of the Caribbean community — and Venezuela, to which Jamaica is indebted for steady oil supplies and assistance.

Jamaica represents half the Caribbean community market, has more or less overcome regional suspicion because of import restrictions briefly imposed by the Manley Government.

Mr Seaga himself is not the most popular figure on the Caribbean scene, a suspicion dating back in part to the late sixties when as finance minister he was felt to be too quick to talk down to Caribbean colleagues. Dr Eric Williams, the Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister who died in March, publicly rebuked the International Monetary Fund last year for holding discussions with Mr Seaga while he was still in opposition. Dr Williams' successor, Mr George Chambers now faces elections, and any new Jamaican initiative will probably wait till the political situation is clearer in Port of Spain.

A Special Correspondent

The Great Jamaican takes the Gold

Red Stripe lager beer was a Gold Medal winner at the prestigious 20th Monde Selection Awards held in Amsterdam in September, 1981.

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Central location to prime markets



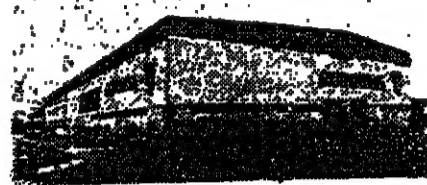
Jamaica is on the main shipping lanes to major North American, Caribbean and South American routes. The island is well served by major airlines, many of them operating regular cargo services, particularly to the United States.



Low production costs

Although wages in Jamaica are not the lowest in the world, the capacity of the Jamaican worker for high and sustained production is known internationally. Any of the several large basic industries operating in Jamaica can attest to that. High levels of production and sustained volumes of output add up to lower production costs and greater profitability.

Security of Investments



Government's policy officially protects investments and there are guarantees specially meant to encourage overseas investors. Government does not participate directly in business apart from major public utilities.

Industry-oriented Infrastructure

The country has a well-established infrastructure for industry of every kind. There is adequate electricity generating capacity, water supply, well-kept roads, a cross-country railroad service for bulk haulage, two modern international airports, a dependable telephone service, training institutions



for management and technical level employees. Modern port facilities including a transhipment port and a Free Zone for export manufacturing.

Dependable labour force

Jamaica's labour force is organised and dependable. The majority of these workers are represented by two large labour unions with traditions deeply entrenched in the democratic way of life. The unions negotiate on their behalf and the government remains the main arbiter in any type of dispute through the Industrial Disputes Tribunal.

For further information contact:

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Will Greece follow France tomorrow and swing left?

By Mario Modiano

Athens Which of those benevolent faces of Greek party leaders, who now smile paternally from giant colour posters high on the walls of Athens will still be in a smiling mood when the results of tomorrow's elections come out?

The opinion polls insist that Mr Andreas Papandreu, gifted but intractable leader of the Pan-Hellenic Socialist Movement (Pasek), will win the landslide victory he so confidently expects, by riding a truly Pan-Hellenic urge for a change.

At the same time, however, respected psephologists argue that the ruling New Democracy Party of Mr George Rallis, the Prime Minister, for all the odds against it, is bound to win now that the Conservatives are ganging up to defend their bourgeois society from real or imagined dangers posed by the quasi-Marxist Pasek.

There is no doubt that all options are open: either party can win or both can wind up in a draw just short of a working majority in parliament. The traditional parameters on the Greek political scene have changed this time so drastically that no forecasts are possible.

For one thing, Mr Constantinos Karamanlis, after dominating this scene for a quarter of a century, relinquished the leadership of the Conservatives to move up to the non-partisan post of President. His successor, Mr Rallis, is still making his mark.

The second change was the disintegration of the middle-of-the-road Centre Party after its defeat in the last elections. What was left of it has been absorbed into a right wing keen on identifying itself with liberalism and Socialists in search of political acceptability.

A third transformation was that Mr Papandreu managed in seven years to make Pasek politically more respectable and, up to a point, more tolerable to its opponents. The festival-like electioneering campaign is nearly over and to hear some of the speeches one would assume that foreign policy is the dominant issue. An opinion poll this week, however, showed that only five per cent of the voters are likely to be influenced by foreign affairs, against 27 per cent who give priority to the economy, and 24 per cent who invoked the "need for change".

New Democracy, for all its undeniable achievements in the last seven years, is blamed today for an inflation running at 25 per cent for the third successive year — a rate that is not only eroding the value of pay packets, but is biting deeply into them through static tax rates.

New Democracy is also held responsible for failing to tame the insubstantial minotaur of an inefficient and largely corrupt bureaucracy, for breaking too many promises, and especially in Athens where one third of the electorate lives — for allowing the quality of life to decline under the omnipresent cloud of smog that now crowns the capital permanently.

Significantly, Mr Papandreu chose the final week of the campaign to announce in an interview that a Pasek government would index tax rates, but also grant an anti-inflation compensation to every citizen whose income falls short of the minimum subsistence level.

At the same time he promised, rather optimistically,

cally, to eradicate bureaucracy through decentralization, and to wipe out the scourge of "rousfeti", the political favour, by eliminating the personal vote which is at the root of political patronage.

Mr Papandreu's economic policy is not all roses. The Government claims that the price tag on Pasek's election promises is an unrealistic 10,000m — the equivalent of two state budgets.

Pasek's list of companies scheduled for nationalization appears to have shrunk considerably in an attempt to allay the fears of all but — as Mr Papandreu put it — the 10 families that make up the country's "economic oligarchy". But the anxiety persists because of the absence of clear-cut commitments.

Even if foreign policy is not a priority in this election, a successful Conservative campaign has pointed out the dangerous contradictions and ambiguities of Pasek's policy on Nato, the EEC, and the American bases, raising serious doubts about Mr Papandreu's credibility.

From what Mr Papandreu has said so far it appears that Greece, after all, will not pull out of Nato altogether, only from its military wing, like France.

Nor does he intend to leave the European Community as he had pledged, since, instead of the simple course of having the Accession Treaty abrogated by Parliament, he opted for the improbable procedure of recommending a referendum to the President, the very man who regards Greece's accession to the EEC as his crowning accomplishment.

And on the American military bases — the "death bases" in Pasok language — it now seems that they could stay in exchange for the guaranteed procurement of US military equipment for the Greek armed forces.

Mr Papandreu in fact, has given a formal promise to refrain from any action that might jeopardize the ability of the Greek armed forces to defend the country from aggression. And, in Pasek's book, aggression can only come from Turkey. Therefore the need to maintain the balance of power in the Aegean is vital.

These fine points are implied rather than explained as Mr Papandreu tries to dispel the reservations of the moderate voters without throwing Pasek's Marxist fringe into the arms of the pro-Soviet Communists who are out this time to get a controlling voice in the Greek Parliament.

Next Sunday it is the undecided voters who are likely to tip the scales: the moderates of the centre who are torn between the urge for a change and their misgivings about Pasek; as well as the disgruntled followers of New Democracy who now feel trapped because they mistrust Pasek's smaller party, which offer no credible alternative because their chances are crippled by the electoral system.

In the battle for the fringe vote, the decision of the small rightist National Rally to suspend its activity and back New Democracy in view of the Marxist threat could prove more conclusive than the lure of Mr George Mavros, the veteran leader of the Centre, who is on Pasek's ticket.

What Greek democracy needs desperately today is proof that it is healthy enough for the interchange of



Mr Papandreu: he must not alienate moderates or Marxists

parties in power to be uneventful. In this sense a Pasek victory should be welcome. Even more so because it would give the Greek Conservatives a chance to indulge in some cathartic soul-searching after four or five decades in power.

Many Conservatives, however, argue that the price of a Pasek takeover might be too high for the country to afford. Others will agree, however, that Mr Papandreu, once in power, would concentrate his radicalism at home, and, like the French Socialists, sober up on his international posture. As one voter put it: "One hears too many tunes outside the dance".

Most Greeks are frightened by the prospect that there might be a draw, with neither of the two parties able to form a government. One theory is that this might be a blessing in disguise, considering the procedural difficulties of having another election soon. A coalition drawn from the two big parties might be a perfect vehicle for steering Pasek gently into the mainstream of government, short-circuiting, perhaps, the revolutionary urges of its Marxist left and the Communists.

Such a delicate balancing act would inevitably impose a formidable burden on President Karamanlis, who would be drawn into the role of mediator in a country that has lost its taste for coalitions 27 years ago. But then, as he himself puts it, this is why Mr Karamanlis became President in the first place.

The Tories' week in Blackpool

Looking for a new Macleod

by Geoffrey Smith



From Thursday's Daily Mirror

All the views that fit

Throughout this week a struggle has been raging at Blackpool for the minds and hearts of the Conservative Party. It has been fought over the Government's economic policy, but it has not been simply or even principally a contest between two schools of economic thought. It has rather been between those who wish to see the Government press ahead vigorously with its economic strategy and those who fear the political consequences of doing so.

The critics have naturally had to produce their own economic alternatives, on the basis that nobody can beat something with nothing. But the conference has not been gripped this week by the argument over the necessary conditions for lower interest rates. Its attention has not been grabbed by the debate on how to stabilize exchange rates. It has not been worried over precisely what additions to the public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) might be permitted. The critical issue has been economics versus politics. This is evident from the way in which the protagonists have presented their case. And it is certainly how the Government has argued that the Government has an economic strategy and must see it through. This may take some time, but the country's economic malaise will never be solved until the Government is diverted to soft options. No alternative to the strategy could do more than buy a fleeting popularity — and ultimately leave the economy in an even worse condition.

To which the critics have replied, sometimes openly and sometimes in code, that it is no use having a programme for two parliaments if you are not elected for the second. The Conservatives face the possibility of electoral massacre because a large part of their natural constituency is threatened by the Social Democrats, and in the social art of government is to secure the necessary public consent for the policies that are most likely to be effective. Government that differs only of policies and forgets the need for consent will never be successful.

These are the contrasting approaches which have been contending for support at Blackpool. In the eyes of the conference it has been a simple question: can the Government afford to go on with its economic policy? To which the conference has responded with a loud Yes. But the most obvious way in which the struggle has been affected this week. But it would be facile to assume either that this answer is conclusive or that this clear expression of opinion among the party activists has been the only significant development at Blackpool.

The contest now switches to the Parliamentary Party and the Cabinet room, where the next engagement will be fought over the Treasury's proposals for spending cuts in the next financial year.

This continuing battle will be influenced by the second critical development at Blackpool: the fight-back by the "moderates" of the party. The most momentous event was Mr Michael Heseltine's speech. He has a reputation as a brilliant conference orator or, at least, a good one. His speech on Thursday was of a different order altogether. It was one of the great conference speeches of recent times.

It is also a mistake, however, to leave personal calculations out of account in any political assessment. Each claimant to the mantle of Macleod will know that he cannot afford to be outflanked by the others if he is not to lose his natural constituency. This will certainly not guarantee that the wets will win at Westminster. Indeed it is probably wrong to think of outright victory for either side in this contest.

While Mr Thatcher has unquestionably won the battle of Blackpool, the proceedings there make it certain that the war will continue to rage with increased bitterness.

because he won an enthusiastic ovation from the conference with views which it did not wish to hear.

Whether he won such a standing ovation for those views is more doubtful. This is the least generous and most narrow-minded Conservative conference within memory. It does not seem naturally warm to reminders that black people are fellow citizens who are here to stay, to explanations of the sense of misery and inadequacy that grips many inner cities or to suggestions that more public money might be needed to relieve their plight. But with much courage and consummate skill in mixing unpleasant truths with sweeter political noises, he captivated the conference.

This had a double political significance. It was important in itself and for its effect on the colleagues who were not all of them held him with unalloyed pleasure.

It would be foolish to suggest that Mr Pym, Mr Prior and Mr Walker spoke as they did on Thursday in order to keep up with Mr Heseltine. Mr Pym won his ovation from the conference, with his warning of the dangers presented by the SDP and his assertion that there are indeed alternatives to the Government's policy, but Mr Heseltine ever rose to his feet. Mr Prior may have taken a nasty tumble through his miscalculation over the Cabinet reshuffle but he has a longer record than Mr Heseltine's standing up to Mr Thatcher.

The speech he delivered to the Tory Reform Group on Thursday evening was characteristic in its outspokenness. He remarked that the rhetoric of the Government used was frequently unsuited to the time in which we live, and made a case for more capital spending and increasing the PSBR.

Mr Walker's critique of economic policy to the Tory Reform Group at lunchtime on Thursday was also entirely to be expected, no matter what Mr Heseltine had said. But there can be no doubt that by his speech Mr Heseltine has raised himself to a different level. He has also intensified the competition for the mantle of Macleod. The use of Macleod's name has now become a familiar signal in Conservative circles. He has become the patron saint of the politicians' camp in the present contest. The fact that there are now a number of possible claimants to the mantle should strengthen that wing of the party in two ways. Their individual arguments will reinforce each other.

It is always a mistake to be too cynical about politicians' motives. They have, convictions as well as capriciousness. The wet ministers will draw strength from one another and give strength to their supporters in Parliament.

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Geoffrey Milton

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It was the week in which science fiction invaded the realm of the political correspondent to provide us with the Blackpool continuum theory, that an elite number of Conservative Party conferences can co-exist simultaneously, each identical but for one small yet significant detail.

Mr Andrew Murray, of the *Communist Morning Star* (circulation 33,793, of which 14,000 go "abroad"), was delighted to find himself in one of a particularly apocalyptic nature. "How much longer can the Government last?" he asked the readers. "That was the burning question last night as the Conservative conference became the centre of a no-holds barred political brawl between Premier Thatcher and her Tory bells, led by Edward Heath."

Was it? Had Mr Murray addressed the burning question to Mr Walter Terry, political editor of *The Sun* (circulation 1,170,000), he would have got a different answer. On the same day, Mr Terry had informed his readers: "Chancellor Sir Geoffrey Howe blasted former Premier Ted Heath out of sight yesterday in a howl down delivered over the Government's economic policy."

The two accounts do share a flowery, violent imagery — there really is no difference between a no-holds barred political brawl and a showdown delivered over the somewhat crucial point of what actually happened, they seem poles apart.

Perhaps one should not fret too much. Whether the Conservatives lay into each other with the style of First Division football players or the lavishness of the Borgias, it still seems preferable to the interpretation of events given by the *Daily Express*.

The Tory Party rejected Ted Heath last night but created its very own Tony Benn, declared Mr John Warden, the paper's political editor. "A deeply wounded Mr Heath left the Blackpool conference to become Mrs Thatcher's dangerous man, fired with a mission to destroy her and her policies. He failed to turn the Tories against her in a vicious, back-biting debate."

Mr Ian Aitken, political editor of *The Guardian*, wrote that the engagement had been Quatre Bras rather than Waterloo, though he did rather spoil the analogy by adding, in an aside for those unfamiliar with the battle, "the battle, in other words, is certain to be resumed elsewhere".

This analysis received some support from the *Daily Mirror* which featured a handsome caricature of Mr Heath in a toga, a dagger and regarding Mrs Thatcher in an unfriendly fashion. "He has not yet lost the war," it surmised.

The *Daily Telegraph*, doing its best to be loyal to the Prime Minister, was the only paper to give prominence to a remark by one Councillor Robert Jones, of Stockton-on-Tees. He told the conference: "Margaret Thatcher and Ted Heath both have a great vision. The difference is that Margaret Thatcher has a vision that Britain will one day be great again, and Ted Heath has a vision that one day Ted Heath will be great again."

The *Times*, in a leading article, commented: "A direct insult from a subsequent speaker was warmly applauded. This was boorish treatment of a former party leader and Prime Minister." Others obviously felt that, after the Labour Party conference, direct insult and boorish treatment had taken their rightful and proper place as an integral part of the democratic process.

So was it a propaganda victory for the Prime Minister? Three national papers displayed some sympathy for Mr Heath. The *Daily Star*, though it rated its conference coverage lower than a story about Starbird Tessa Hewitt's "mad passionate affair" with pop star Adam Ant, said that his speeches were "masterpieces in the long-forgotten art of impassioned unscripted politics".

The *Mirror* and *The Guardian*, both of whom had hardly one good word to say about the fellow when he was in power, rather grudgingly conceded that if you had to have a Conservative prime minister, Mr Heath was a better bet than Mrs Thatcher.

David Hewson



The first front page, October 16, 1881, and last Sunday's: on both days Ireland provided the big news story



They made an excuse and stayed

reports and the pictures of a scandalous girl. The readers were distinctly unimpressed by Swaffer's efforts at high moral tone, which they found far too bland and boring for Sunday breakfast fare.

Circulation slumped, and a huge unpaid printer's bill threatened closure. Morden cancelled the debt by giving the paper to the printer, Julius Elias, later Lord Southwood. It was the best debt settlement Elias ever had, and turned into Odham's Press from jobbing printer to newspaper empire.

With circulation down to a quarter of a million, Odham's turned to Harry Ainsworth, a master of popular journalism, and appointed him editor at £35 a week plus a bonus for every 10,000 copies the paper put on over half a million. Ainsworth and Odham's together struck it rich, by bringing back the story of intimate confessions of the famous and the infamous, campaigns and exposures. By the outbreak of war in 1939 *The People* was selling more than three million a week.

But by 1939 it was yet to come. After 33 years in the editor's chair, Ainsworth handed over to Sam Campbell in 1958, and circulation soared to reach a peak in 1959 of 5.5 million. Campbell's master stroke was to buy the memoirs of Errol Flynn for £50,000, but perhaps the paper's greatest asset in the 50s was the presence on its staff of Duncan Webb, the greatest of all crime reporters.

Webb's success in unmasking villainy, notably the

notorious Messina brothers, has passed into Fleet-Street folklore. At his funeral service the church was packed with journalists, whores and chiefs of police. Webb died young, but the style he set continued through many more memorable exposures: Commander Kenneth Drury, crooked prison warden, paedophile, cigarette-smoking beggars, bribed soccer stars.

For all the writs that pile up in the editor's office each Tuesday morning, few aggrieved parties have succeeded in suing *The People*. Richard Churchill took them for £5,000 when they called him "a paid lack of the Conservative Party", but on the whole the paper has got away with it.

Geoffrey Pinnington, the present editor, believes it is a tribute to the paper's professionalism. "We know what we have to do to make things stick. We must name names. We like to get our investigations to the point where the police must take action."

The *People's* many imita-

tions in investigative journalism, Pinnington believes, often fail either by chasing after small fry, or being content with innuendo when what they should really be doing is assembling a cast-iron case.

The paper still keeps a muckraking team headed by Laurie Manifold and David Farr. But today's *Sunday People*, now part of the *Daily Mirror* empire, has largely changed its emphasis towards the froth of showbusiness and "human interest". "You can't muck rake all the time," says Pinnington, defensively.

Throughout its long and honourable life, *Sunday People* has harboured one lingering regret. For all its hard-hitting exposure and campaigning, for all its pioneering in-depth sports coverage (still, incidentally, a best-seller), it has never quite been able to overtake the circulation of its arch-rival, the *News of the World*.

Alan Hamilton

For sale: a British racing dream

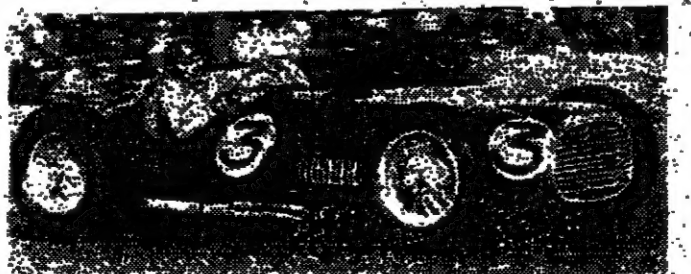
How much are we bid for 30 years of brave endeavour, late night toil, danger, hopes, frustrations and — every so often — some sweet victories?

The amount to be raised by the auction, at the London Motorfair exhibition at Earls Court later this month, of the entire BRM operation, lock, stock and cylinder barrel, is no more predictable than the auctioneer's bid for the cars in their heyday. Mr Peter Spear, technical director of the parent company, Rubery Owen, estimates that buyers will open their wallets to the tune of £1.5m. But Mr Robert Brooks of Christie's, the auctioneers, thinks "in lesser terms": "At least £300,000", as far as he will commit himself, having been proved wrong on previous collective sales.

The prize of the collection, which Mr Brooks regrets will probably go to Japanese or Californian collectors, is the notoriously temperamental 1950 16-cylinder Mark I, as driven by Fangio and others of the era. The car has a reserve, according to Mr Spear, of £100,000. But others, more successful in their own, later seasons, may ironically fetch much less.

As a yardstick, says Mr Brooks, "the late Jim Clark's world championship-winning Lotus of 1965 was sold this year to the Caister Castle museum in Norfolk for £36,000.

Mr Brooks adds that he may be underestimating; that



Juan Fangio at the wheel of the Mark 1 BRM that will be auctioned at Motorfair

It is rumoured a pre-war Mercedes Grand Prix car was sold privately for £300,000, 18 months ago. We shall see. Whatever the eventual total, the Rubery Owen company will glean little financial compensation from the bones of BRM, or its chassis members, to set against the amount spent. Peter Spear calculates that the racing operation has cost £12m, much of which was in days when the pound in a racing driver's pocket meant something.

Among the papers and effects being sold are the contracts with many, many legendary drivers. José Froilan Gonzalez, a team mate of Fangio, was signed up for a year's exclusive contract for the — ungenerous by today's standards — sum of £250. It also states he was paid £100 for each race. How times have changed.

Others who did their share of the driving included Graham Hill, whose P57 world-

Bourne in Lincolnshire — the sums of history and endeavour past is overwhelming. Perhaps someone, even at this late hour, will bid for the nation, down to the last sparrow, and open it all as a museum.

Robert Brooks cannot imagine the Italians selling their equivalent collection, the Ferraris. Mr Stan Hope, who has been with the BRM project for 30 years as a senior mechanic, agrees. He points to large sums paid by art galleries for piles of bricks, and asks why the Government cannot save this "prime piece of British engineering history".

Mr Hope, one of the original workforces of more than 100, now dwindled to 11, is full of stories of the factory, which in 1950 was firing enough power from a 15-hp engine to propel 10 family cars of today. When Fangio first came to test the amazing Mark I at nearby Folkingham airfield, he was ecstatic. Mr Hope was not so ecstatic when being driven back to Bourne in a lumbering saloon by Fangio. The pair were approaching a blind bend which was dangerous at 30 miles an hour, "Fangio was driving at 75, unaware of the danger", he says. "I suddenly realized that neither knew a word of the other's language, but he was in a bit of a hurry, and he had come. But with a couple of flicks of the wheel, we were round."

However interesting and valuable the cars are individually, when viewed in their own environment — a collection of eighteenth-century houses just outside the old agricultural town of

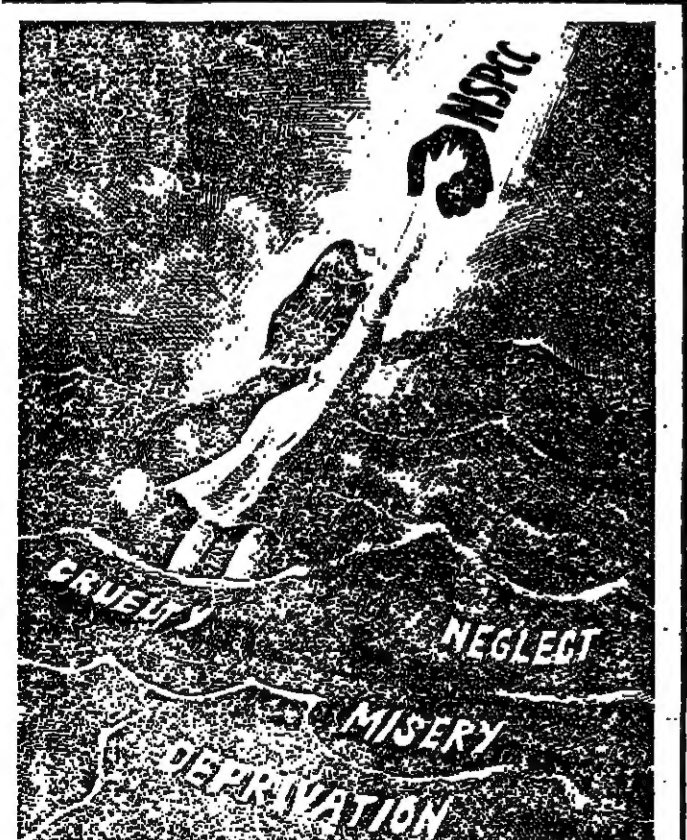
He also tells of the vast amounts of scrapped engine parts which BRM sold to a local dealer, only to discover he was reselling them to the locals, and Bourne was coming filled with "BRM hybrids". The remedy, perhaps a little drastic, was to dig a pit at Folkingham which became a mechanical mass grave. Mr Hope thinks it will be undetectable now, though who knows? With modern metal detectors there could be more BRM hybrids to come, if unearthed.

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POISED FOR IMPROVEMENT

Mrs Thatcher achieved her expected triumph at Blackpool yesterday. That she would win the warm approval of the conference had been generally predicted with absolute confidence. It is in the nature of Conservative conferences to applaud their leaders enthusiastically, and it has been evident throughout the week that Mrs Thatcher has the support of a large majority of activists in the debates now raging within the party. The triumph was therefore there for the taking; the significance lay in the means by which she took it.

She made no concessions of substance to her critics. The main body of her speech was a forceful defence of the principles which had determined her strategy, combined with assurances that it was beginning to achieve success. Yet she did respond in two ways to the conflict which has dominated the proceedings at Blackpool. She acknowledged not only the right but the value of dissent: "The diversity of our party is not a source of weakness, it is part of our strength." She expressed her pleasure that Mr Heath had addressed the conference — a pleasure that many members of the conference regretfully did not share at the time. She also responded to his declared intention to help the Conservative candidate at Croydon. These were calculated attempts to disprove the charge that she is leading a narrow sect rather than a broad church.

The other way in which Mrs

Thatcher responded to her critics was to acknowledge the validity of their anxieties economic and electoral. She did not accept their view of how unemployment could be reduced, but she spoke with sympathy for the unemployed, not in tones of irritation at those who would not take the trouble to find work. This is not a small point at a time when the dispute within the party rages around the Government's rhetoric as much as its policies. Mrs Thatcher is never likely to satisfy her critics completely on this score. She is a politician of courage and strength rather than of sensitivity. But at least yesterday she showed herself aware of the need.

Mrs Thatcher also took care in another, equally important, respect. Last year she won much applause with her dramatic proclamation: "The lady's not for turning" — a commitment to inflexibility that suited the mood of the moment rather than the changing requirements of an ailing economy. This year she gave no such hostages. Perhaps her audience thought she was saying much the same thing when she declared in ringing tones "I will not change just to court popularity." Indeed, if ever a Conservative permanent starts to do what it knows to be wrong because it is afraid to do what it is sure is right, then that is the time for the Tories to cry "Stop". The conference certainly cheered loudly enough at that point. But that was not another commitment never to

change policy: it was a promise not to do so for the sake of political expediency which is the sort of promise a politician may safely give in the expectation that, if a new departure is required, another more pleasing explanation will surely be available.

To put it like this is not to suggest that Mrs Thatcher is in a devious fashion now preparing to change course, but is better poised to respond to changed circumstances. Although all the indications at Blackpool were that neither she nor Sir Geoffrey Howe has that intention, it will be surprising if no modifications to existing policy are forced upon the Government in the course of the coming year. A prudent Prime Minister should always take into account the need for some flexibility because the art of Government is more than the exercise of will, and it is foolish to be put in the position of having either to reject an essential change or to eat one's words.

The speech Mrs Thatcher delivered yesterday was still that of a "conviction politician," determined in her purposes and apparently confident in her strategy. But it did not contain further extravagant and unnecessary commitments. It will not have united the party, but no speech that she could reasonably have been expected to make would have done so. Indeed, the Conservative probably could not be united this moment by any speech or by any leader. That will have to wait the passage of time and the movement of events.

BL's pay offer to workforce

From Mr G. J. Armstrong

Sir, Amid the considerable publicity which the BL Cars wage negotiations have attracted, there are some basic points which need to be emphasized.

The issue of wages is only part of the wider consideration of how to cut costs and bring them into line with our competitors, while still finding ways of funding wage increases. We have had to reduce our basic costs and improve output per man.

We have made definite progress towards this objective and our workforce has played its part in the financial success achieved to date. That contribution has been rewarded through the productivity scheme which covers all BL Cars plants. Over the past year this scheme, plus the general 6.8 per cent increase last November, has increased hourly paid wages by an average of 13.5 per cent across the car operations. Their earnings have therefore kept pace both with inflation and with the rise in earnings in the manufacturing sector generally.

The future of our employees depends on continuing high levels of investment, made possible by Government support. During 1982 this investment will result in a cash outflow from BL of some £300m, which is largely accounted for by expenditure on new models and new efficient manufacturing facilities.

Our claim of a £20 per week increase, plus other benefit improvements, would add more than £80m to BL Cars' costs and cash outflow; if it were paid, BL quite simply would be unable to fund its new model programme, which is fundamental to the company's recovery and the jobs of its employees.

Despite heavy current losses, we calculate that we can fund a basic increase of 3.8 per cent plus 1.5 per cent for inflation. There is still considerable scope for higher bonus earnings through higher productivity and that must be the right way to continue the progress we have made to date.

We cannot fund anything more. These are the harsh financial facts.

Yours faithfully,
G. J. ARMSTRONG,
Employee Relations Director,
Cars Group,
BL Limited,
53-55 Tottenham Square, W1.
October 16.

Checks on prisons

From Mr Geoff Cogan and Mr Dick Pooley

Sir, It is all very well for the Board of Visitors Association to protest at "the apparent wall of silence" about the prison death of Barry Prosser (report, October 12) but what public concern has been expressed by the Winslow Green Board of Visitors itself?

Many of the deaths in prison, from whatever presumed cause, take place in segregation cells far from the sight and hearing of the general prison community, whether prisoners or staff prevented from using them. The greatest vigilance by the so-called public watchdogs. Yet we know of no major prison where individual members of boards of visitors make unannounced spot checks, at all hours of the day or night, on these "prisons within prisons". We doubt if any member, making himself a persistent nuisance in this way and insisting on the unlocking of the remotest doors, would remain on a board of visitors for very long.

On paper, boards of visitors have these powers as well as the freedom to speak out about their findings. The fact that they do not use them, nor shout at being prevented from using them, demonstrates how successful is the screening process by which the Home Office makes appointments to the boards, and how inappropriate it is that the Home Office should be any part of that process.

Sincerely,
GEOFF COGGAN,
DICK POOLEY,
PROPs, the National Prisoners' Movement,
97 Caledonian Road, N1.
October 12.

Land of their fathers

From Mr M. S. Watson

Sir, A measure of the Government's uncertainty in accepting and acting upon the agreement reached between the National Farmers' Union and the Country Landowners' Association over the tenancy laws (leader, October 5) must arise from doubt as to whether, if the law is restored to the pre-1976 position, private landlords will in fact let land.

Some may indeed be inhibited from doing so by the fear that the legislation may be repealed by a future Labour government. There are many, however, myself included, who are keen to let land providing they can select the tenant with whom they are to do business. Letting spreads the risk and to some extent separates the responsibilities for conserving the land from the commercial farming operation enabling a balance to be maintained between the two. In particular, let land is admirably suited for inclusion within a maintenance fund for heritage property, whereby future capital tax penalties against it are largely removed.

The NFU-CLA agreement has been achieved only through much searching by both parties. It is, I am sure, the last chance for the landlord/tenant system. Failure to act on it now could cause irreversible damage to the structure of the countryside, and the agricultural industry.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL SAUNDERS WATSON,
Rochingham Castle,
Market Harborough,
Leicestershire.
October 8

Determining the nuclear balance

From Mr Michael Mates, MP for Petersfield (Conservative)

Sir, Any attempt to draw up a so-called nuclear "balance" between East and West is not a particularly productive exercise. Simple numerical comparisons can take no account of such factors as age, capability to generate defences, number of warheads, yield and so on. In any case it has never been NATO's policy to match the Soviet Union weapon for weapon, but only to maintain a sufficient capability to deter attack.

Nevertheless some of the recent points made by your correspondents on this subject are so wide of the mark, particularly those by Mrs Gouley (October 8) who claims that the Russians "introduced SS20 to catch up with us", that they should not go unremarked.

To have any meaning a comparison between the arsenals of the two sides must include systems of broadly similar capability. Clearly to lump together all weapons from short range artillery to long range missiles makes little sense. It has been widely recognized that those systems which can strike Western Europe from inside the Soviet Union and vice versa (so-called long range theatre nuclear forces) have a particular significance. Both sides have operated such missiles in this category since the late 1950s when the United States deployed Thor and Jupiter missiles (withdrawn shortly afterwards) and the Russian SS4s and SS (still in service). Pershing I missiles however lack the range to be included in this group, like the Soviet SS12s and 22s. Both have also operated long range aircraft: the P111s and Vulcan on the NATO side; while the Russians have Backfire, Blinder and Badger bombers — none of which Mrs Gouley mentions. Again both sides operate several types of shorter range aircraft, among which Tornado will be included.

In the early 1970s there was approximate parity of such systems. Since then, while NATO has continued to rely on its 1960 vintage aircraft (it has no missiles in this category) the Russians have deployed both the SS20, which unlike its predecessors is

mobile and carries three warheads rather than one, and the super-sonic Backfire bomber at a remarkable rate. The result is that the Soviet Union now has not only a superiority of about 4:1 in this important category of land based long range missiles and aircraft, but also a significant proportion are modern, high technology systems. To represent SS20 as a catching-up exercise is plainly absurd.

In case your readers think I am deliberately selecting a particular group of systems to produce a distorted picture, any other comparison of equivalent systems in the European theatre — including for example sea based or shorter range systems — produces a similar result. The imbalance is not always quite so marked but in all cases it is significant and widening. NATO has every reason to be concerned. We must hope that the negotiations about to begin between the Soviet Union and the United States to reduce these systems produces early results. But let us be under no illusion that the Russians will reduce their weapons unless they can obtain some quid pro quo from the West. NATO needs to modernize its nuclear forces with the Cruise and Pershing II missiles both to maintain the credibility of its own deterrent and to give the Russians an incentive to negotiate in good faith.

As for Dr Martin (October 8), has it occurred to him that perhaps the reason that the Russians have not swept through Northern Europe to the Channel ports with their superior conventional forces is that they regard the risk of a nuclear war resulting to be unacceptable? Of course a substantial strengthening of NATO's conventional forces would provide a more realistic alternative to dependence on nuclear weapons, but given the massive increase in Western defence spending that would be necessary I doubt whether it is right to commend Dr Owen as being "realistic" on this score.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL MATES,
House of Commons.
October 13.

Contracts for dons

From Professor William Doyle

Sir, Academics are supposed to be exponents of clear thinking. Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer's valedictory address as vice-chancellor of Cambridge, as reported on October 8, is therefore no advantage for them. It is a masterpiece of the undoubted fact that some senior academics become less productive later in their careers as an argument against granting tenure too early. I fail to see how delaying the grant of tenure until the 30s or 40s could have the slightest effect upon how efficient they will be in their 50s — unless it is to burn them out even earlier in a frantic rush to produce tenure-earning work.

There are two distinct questions here. The answer to middle-aged inefficiency surely lies in early retirement rather than late confirmation. And the current attack on tenure is not really motivated by academic reasons at all. It is under attack because arbitrary cuts in public expenditure are forcing universities to seek ways of breaking contracts with their staff.

Whether the Cambridge system of assistant lectureships protects quality and weeds out immature scholars is not for me to say, but there seems to be no consensus on that question even in Cam-

bridge itself, as a notorious recent case testifies.

What is clear is that in the United States, where tenure comes late if at all, young talent is wasted on an alarming scale. Every month brings new stories of young and even early middle-aged scholars with distinguished work to their credit being denied tenure — often again for reasons that have little to do with academic merit.

The early and generous grant of tenure seems to me on the other hand to have been fundamental to the academic excellence of British universities, attracting and keeping talent that would otherwise have been lost, and guaranteeing it free expression.

The problems that shrinking funds impose on vice-chancellors are serious, and no easy solutions are in sight. But that is no reason for them to invent spurious academic reasons for doing what they regard as necessary, or to attack a system which only a few years ago most of them would have defended as one of the proudest boasts of British universities.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM DOYLE,
Department of History,
The University of Nottingham,
University Park,
Nottingham,
October 4.

Open and shut

From the Precentor of Guildford Cathedral

Sir, The key-holders of locked churches can be daunting guardians of their shrines. Whilst on holiday in North Wales this year I encountered the legend, "Key at No 4", on the door of a remote church, famous for its late Gothic woodwork. But the occupant of No 4 turned out to be a fierce lady, who said "No — too many thieves and vandals", in spite of my protestations (in Welsh) that I was not dressed as a burglar but was simply help my case.

Eventually she relented, to the extent of sending her elderly brother as an escort, but even then I doubt whether I should have been admitted to the church, had I not possessed the necessary entrance examination. My aged guide politely asked me to recite the names of the twelve apostles, and I am glad to say that I was able to perform this feat of biblical scholarship to his satisfaction, and was duly permitted to view the church.

He then told me darkly that many purporting to be clergymen (with or without their collars) had failed this simple test, some only managing about six or eight names. From more than one point of view, this Ordinal by Apostles has left me very uneasy about thieves, vandals and my fellow-clergymen.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD HANFORD,
5 Cathedral Close,
Guildford,
Surrey.
October 14.

No vain expense

From the President of Magdalen College, Oxford

Sir, Your photograph of Magdalen tower "unveiled" (October 13) is splendid but your estimate of the cost of restoration is too low by a factor of ten. The final cost is about £900,000, of which £100,000 was contributed by the Historic Buildings Council and the rest by our old members.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH GRIFFIN,
Magdalen College,
Oxford.
October 13.

Use of exported plutonium

From Professor Sir Martin Ryle, FRS

Sir, The claim by the Foreign Office that plutonium exported to the United States will not be used for weapons needs a little more examination.

The plutonium, presumably from the spent fuel of Magnox reactors, is said to be destined for fuelling fast breeder reactors. FBRS produce extremely high-grade weapons plutonium and very expensive electricity. The plutonium they produce will comprise different atoms from those despatched from the United Kingdom, but will depend on the latter for its existence.

But even if the FBRS are only used to make electricity, the United Kingdom plutonium will enable United States plutonium production to be diverted to President Reagan's large new weapons programme.

However innocently you try to present the transaction, the fact remains that United States weapons will be built which could not have been built without the aid of material produced in CEGB reactors.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN RYLE,
University of Cambridge,
Department of Physics,
Cavendish Laboratory,
Madingley Road,
Cambridge.
October 15.

Economic policy

From Professor P. T. Bauer, FBA

Sir, Could Professor Tobin, or someone who shares his general position, explain in what sense British economic policy has been deflationary in recent years? Between the last quarter of 1978 and the last quarter of 1980 total monetary spending rose by about 30 per cent, real output declined by nearly 3 per cent and recorded unemployment increased by about one half.

It is most misleading simply to equate high unemployment with insufficient monetary demand, and to ignore such matters as real wage costs in the economy as a whole and in particular regions and industries, the levels and methods of administration of unemployment and social security payments, the costs of imports and of other inputs of industry, and conditions in the housing market.

In 1947 the shortage of coal resulted in mass unemployment. Was this evidence of deficient monetary demand?

Yours faithfully,
P. T. BAUER,
Department of Economics,
The London School of Economics
and Political Science,
Houghton Street, WC2,
October 15.

Heath, not Home

From Mr Maurice Trowbridge

Sir, Mr David Wood is an old friend and former colleague for whom I have considerable personal affection, and whose writings over the last three decades have born a stimulating part of our political scene. I regret, therefore, having to point out that a substantial part of his dissection in today's Times (October 12) was based on a false premise.

It was Mr Heath and not Lord Home who broke with custom by being present throughout the Conservative Party's annual conference, instead of addressing a rally only after the business had been concluded.

Lord Home, it will be recalled, did not become Leader of the Party until after the conference of 1963. There was no conference in 1964 because of the general election, and Lord Home had retired from the leadership before the 1965 conference. On that occasion Mr Heath, the first elected Leader of the Party, spoke twice — once at the general election debate on policy, and once at the final rally.

Yours faithfully,
MAURICE TROWBRIDGE,
Oak Dene,
Slings Oak Road,
Woldingham,
Surrey.
October 12.

Bridging at Brideshead

From Mr C. W. S. Lubbock

Sir, Hurray! Picking holes in Brideshead has begun and Mr A'Antal (October 14) has dealt authoritatively with the military side. On the civil side would the members of the Bullington have done up all their waistcoat buttons and was it his father's absence abroad and consequent lack of paternal instructions that allowed Sebastian to smoke his cigar with the band on?

Yours faithfully,
C. W. S. LUBBOCK,
Great Horshesay,
Essex.
October 15.

From Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Parker Bowles

Sir, Mr A. A'Antal's letter (14 October) on military customs as portrayed in "Brideshead Revisited" is not entirely accurate as soldiers of The Blues and Royals salute even when not wearing head dress. The custom originates from the Battle of Warburg in 1760. The Colonel of The Blues, the Marquess of Granby lost both his hat and wig in a charge in this condition he saluted his Commander Prince Ferdinand and since then the custom has continued.

Mr Evelyn Waugh served with The Blues during the Second World War but I would hasten to add that the Regiment portrayed in the television film had no similarity to The Blues.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW PARKER BOWLES,
Household Cavalry Regiment,
Hyde Park Barracks,
Knightsbridge, SW7.

ATTACKING THE GAS MONOPOLY

The Government's policy towards the gas industry is in a mess. The Prime Minister's decision in his first year of office to hold back gas price rises to the consumer has been overturned by a commitment to increase them some 3 per cent a year above the rate of inflation. The grand gas gathering pipeline plan to take all new discoveries in the North Sea has been abandoned in favour of leaving it to the oil companies to find their own ways of landing new gas. Now the commitment to sell off the British Gas Corporation's showrooms has been put off indefinitely in the face of what are described as the legislative difficulties of bringing in detailed rules to cover the safety implications.

The Prime Minister still seems determined to introduce in the next parliamentary session radical legislation to end the Gas Corporation's near-monopoly rights to first refusal on any gas found; to sell off the Gas Corporation's substantial oil holdings in the North Sea; as well as to enable it to sell off the showrooms.

But the reality seems to be that the combination of the practical difficulties of selling off showrooms, and the threat of a national gas strike has persuaded the Energy Department to put off implementation of its intentions at least in this direction.

To assail the corporation in sudden charges, as the Government now appears to be doing, is hardly sensible or productive. If the cabinet has got into difficulties over the sale of gas showrooms, it is because it never stopped to ask itself whether its primary motivation was to create greater competition in appliance sales, or to gain revenue. As for the intention to break the corporation's first-refusal rights as a buyer of all British gas, in theory it sounds splendid. Greater competition should lead to lower prices and more rapid development. But greater competition in what sense? If competition means, as the oil companies clearly want, higher prices for gas, then all it means is a transference of profit from the corporation where it can

be effectively taxed, to the oil companies, where past experience suggests it cannot. If on the other hand it were to mean alternative supplies to the consumer, the only consumers able to take the gas easily without the laying of expensive and complicated pipeline systems would be large industrial users. In this case, one would be encouraging the burning of gas for bulk use in substitution largely for coal or plentiful oil, at the expense of secure domestic supplies in the future.

There is a very real need to look again at the structure of such a huge industry as gas. While its centralization and integration from well-head to cooker may have served a purpose during conversion to natural gas, there is a strong case for considering splitting it up now. But successful industries are rare in the United Kingdom, and energy is too important to be without the instruments of control and conservation. Until the Government knows what it is trying to achieve, it would be better to leave well alone.

UNLOCK THE DOOR AND LET THEM IN

Two kinds of public access, uncommon elsewhere, give Englishmen a possession of their land and of its history that others may envy: the footpaths and rights of way that criss-cross the ordnance survey map, and the unlocked doors of parish churches. Together they afford the stranger a sense of place in time that he can get no other way. Both are under pressure, even threat; one from agricultural improvements and official rationalization schemes, the other from vandalism, and theft.

Sacrilege has dropped out of the calendar of crimes and holds few spiritual terrors now. Even when all plate and precious ornaments have been locked away or deposited elsewhere it is the rare church that has nothing in it to provoke wanton damage or tempt the professional art thief. Statuary, benches, candelabra, hangings, brasses, chests, poor box, paintings, carving, lecterns — all may be material for pilfering or for the unmarked van on its way to the Channel ports.

Incumbents and church wardens react to this lamentable danger in a variety of ways, as our letter columns

have illustrated. There is the saintly response, throw the place open, leave the fate of its contents to Him in whose honour they have been assembled, and pray for the felon; the siege response, lock everything and admit strangers only under escort; the stable-door response, stay open and lock when it is too late; the electronic response, infra-red sensor devices and moveable objects sensitized within an alarm system; and there are the insurers' guidelines, lock up and visibly proclaim the whereabouts of the guardian of the key.

For those without the responsibility, open all day is far and away the best state, and locked with a notice about the key a tolerable second best. Those who come for prayer or recollection have most reason to be disappointed by a locked door, but mere church crawlers have their claims as well. T. S. Eliot may have laid it down at Little Gidding that "You are not here to verify, Instruct yourself, or inform curiosity, Or carry report. You are here to kneel. Where prayer has been valid. But you may of course be there for more than one of

those reasons, which do not exclude each other; and you may come in one state of mind and stay, to your surprise, in another.

A poet of a different kidney, Mr Philip Larkin, has described in his self-amused way how it was with him. "Once I am sure there's nothing going on I step inside. Another church... some brass and stuff up at the holy end... Hatless, I take off my cycle-clips in awkward reverence... Mounting the lectern... I pronounce 'Here endeth' much more loudly than I'd meant... I sign the book, donate an Irish sixpence, reflect the place was not worth stopping for." But stop he did, and does.

For, though I've no idea... What this accursed frowsty barn is worth. It pleases me to stand in silence here; A serious house on serious earth it is. In whose bleak air all our compulsions meet, Are recognized, and robed as destinies. The purpose of the place exerts itself. The cycle-clips take wing. The poet speaks sensibilities all men possess. A church barred of access is a tiny triumph for the powers of darkness.

Arts Council policy

From Mr Derek Parker

Sir, I wonder if I might add a gloss to Mr Charles Osborne's pithy Apologia defending his Arts Council Literature Department and its policies? (Article, October 9).

Firstly, he claims that the panel's "policy shifts" are opposed only by "a small but vociferous faction in the literary world". The Society of Authors, it is true, represents only about 3,000 writers, but while many of them complain about the new policy we have not received one single letter supporting it. The same is true, I believe, of the Writers' Guild and the Writers' Action Group. In the aggregate, our membership is surely not a

negligible proportion of the country's working writers?

Secondly (and indeed for the second time in these columns) I must repeat that we have never called on Mr Osborne to resign, although I must confess to a doubt that any sizable demonstration would be mounted by our authors in favour of his remaining in his post should he decide to leave it. He has, in fact, resigned his membership of the society. I suppose I must be counted among the "by no means disinterested faces" whose plumb expressions Mr Osborne finds so tedious. I have personally never received a grant from the council, nor have I ever applied for one; but it is true that I and my colleagues on the executive committee of the society cannot

be disinterested in the face of the plight of so many authors during the present recession, nor in the face of Mr Osborne's continual refusal to concede that the new policies seem designed expressly to deny help where it is most needed.

His defence of these policies is indeed becoming increasingly difficult to accept with patience, and one more and more tends towards the attitude taken by Karl Richter to a recalcitrant second flute in the Covent Garden orchestra: "Your damned nonsense can I stand twice or once, but always, by God, never!"

Yours faithfully,
DEREK PARKER, Chairman,
Executive Committee,
The Society of Authors,
84 Drayton Gardens, SW10.

Saturday Review

Two hundred years ago next Monday, on October 19 1781, Lord Cornwallis and his whole army surrendered to Washington at Yorktown. The War of Independence was over.

It could have been settled almost at the outset if Generals Howe and Burgoyne had received simultaneous orders to attack in unison. That they did not was due to the Colonial Secretary, Lord George Germaine, being impatient to go shooting and refusing to wait for Howe's orders to be copied.

Why were they not ready for him? T. E. B. Clarke recounts this hitherto unknown item of history.

"You are a clod-poll, Master Diplock. Playing stupid rough games at your age."

"Stoolball, dear wife, is neither rough nor stupid. It is a gentleman's game. It enables me to relax from the cares of Whitehall to breathe the pure air of Bethnal Green."

"And to scathe your thumb catching a plaguy old ball! Caring naught for what it may do to your penmanship. Our living depends on your steady right hand, Ephraim Diplock. Without it we are undone, there will be nothing for us but the poorhouse."

"Tut, woman, enough of your needles. Government clerks are in no danger of dismissal, and this slight affliction will slow me but a trifle in my writing. We at the Colonial Office are not in such haste that its effect will gain notice."

A rash avowal, for the morning was to see the unfolding of the master plan evolved by the Colonial Secretary to end at last that tiresome American uprising which on occasion had kept his staff working as late as four of the afternoon.

"Orders to General Howe," said the senior clerk, placing same in front of Ephraim Diplock. "To be fair copied and countersigned by noon."

Ephraim had no sooner commenced his task than he realized that Martha as usual had hit the nail on the head — a reflection that caused him to wince anew, for his sore thumb had swollen mightily overnight and its blackened nail was of a tenderness that made each stroke of his pen a torment. He wished now he had thought to visit an apothecary for a protective shield on his way to the ministry.

"My poor Ephraim, I do declare a palsied dotard could scrawl the quicker!" exclaimed his fellow copying clerk, pausing in the duplication of a dispatch to General Burgoyne. "How far have you brought your fellow?"

"I have him thrusting northward from New York to link up with the force advancing through the Hudson gap."

"Then hasten, I beg of you. 'Tis gone half-past eleven and the Gentleman Johnny already camped at Saratoga. You will be in grievous trouble, I fear, when the Germ arrives for the signing."

Lord George Germaine, His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, arrived at the ministry in a rare good temper. This was the day he had long awaited. The traitor Washington would mark it as the day that sealed his fate — and every general in the British Army must soon acknowledge the impolicy of dispensing with its one military genius.

Seventeen years had passed since Lord George was dismissed the army for disobeying orders at the battle of Minden. He had been obliged to enter politics as the only alternative occupation for a wealthy nobleman of limited intelligence. It had taken almost as long for that old noodle Lord North to see him as worthy of Cabinet rank and charge him to settle the hash of those damned colonists.

Now his plan to achieve that object was complete; all that remained was for the generals to carry it out. Once having signed the appropriate orders, Lord George could enjoy his weekend satisfied that never had leisure been more richly deserved. His coachman was waiting outside, with his travelling chariot; by four o'clock he could be out with his gun on the Healey estate of his friend Squire Chipchase, leaving a sufficiency of time for many a wild creature to squeal its last before dusk.

His unfamiliar serenity was of brief duration; it vanished with the news accompanying the document which the senior clerk placed before him.

"Here, m'lord, are the orders to General Burgoyne. Those intended for General Howe are not yet copied."

Choler returned simmering, soon to bubble and boil. "The devil they're not! Why not, man, why not?"

"The copying clerk is afflicted by a sore thumb."

"And I am expected to sit here waitin' on the fellah? Dammit, I have an important engagement."

"I will ascertain, m'lord, how soon the document may be ready."

"No time," snapped Germaine, scrawling an eruptive signature over the waiting dispatch. "By what means are these orders to be transmitted?"

"They will be carried to Bristol in the coach departing the Golden Cross at one o'clock. Our courier will arrive in Bristol at eight of the morning and convey them to the master of the packet *Hippocampus* which sails on the evening tide."

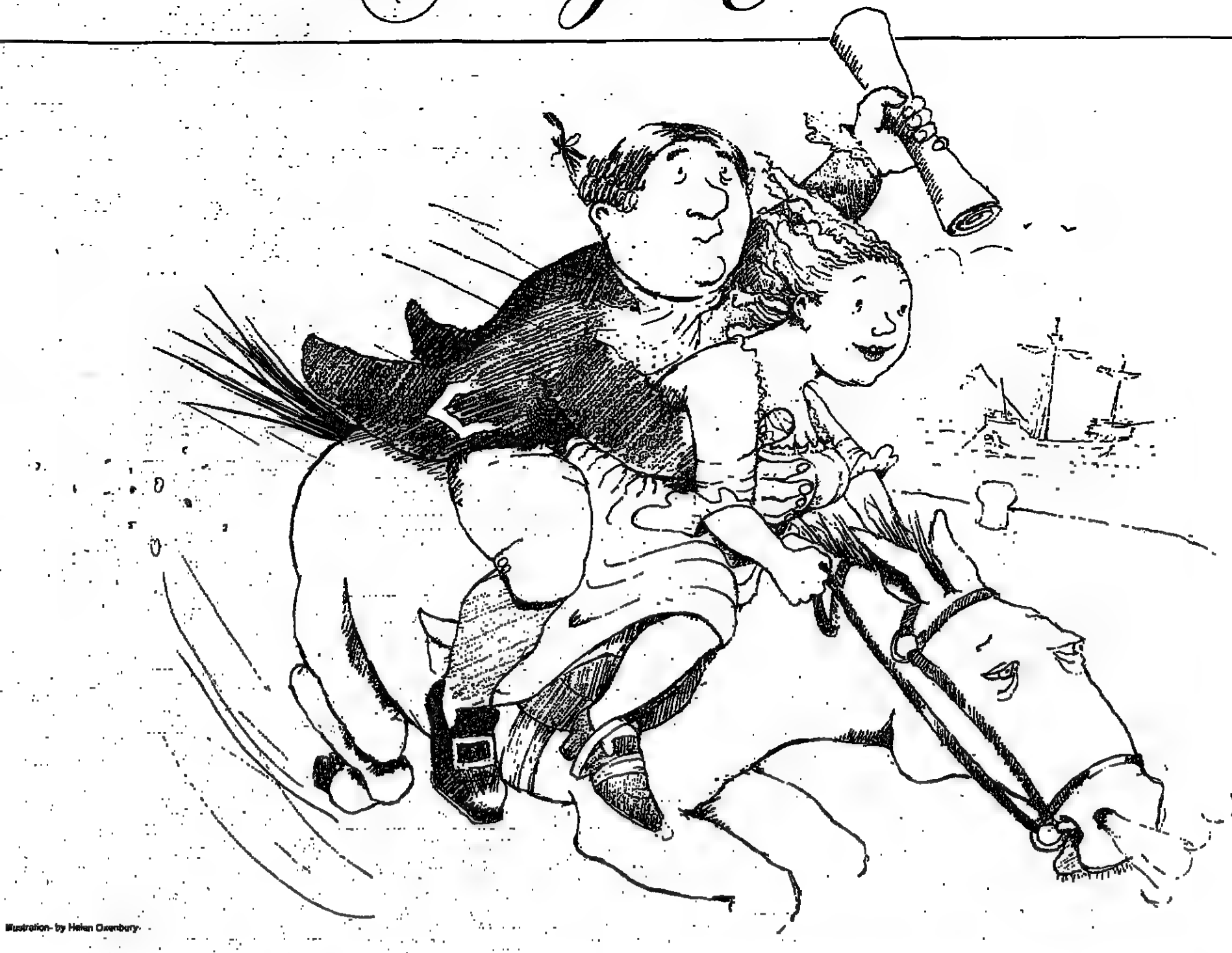


Illustration by Helen Cawthorne

For Want of a Thumbnail

by T. E. B. Clarke

"Is there not a later service reaching Bristol by sailing time?"

"Indeed, m'lord. The five o'clock flyer is due there at noon tomorrow."

"Then your errant clerk may bring the other dispatch to Henley for my signature. He will have time enough to join the flyer at Twyford. And Lord George Germaine stalked off to his shoot."

Ephraim Diplock completed his task shortly after noon. The livery stable that served the needs of the Colonial Office supplied him with a saddle mare warranted to combine hardiness with tranquillity, and at half-past one he departed London for the four hours' ride to Henley. It was a fine summer's day and the change from his Whitehall stool was not unwelcome.

He had ridden blithely through the hamlet of Slough when disaster struck. This region was notorious for its infestation by footpads and highwaymen, some of whom were to be seen dangling from gibbets by the wayside. This was not a sight to disturb Ephraim, who had spent many a Saturday afternoon viewing the hangings at Tyburn when the weather was too inclement for stoolball. It so happened, however, that the rope around the neck of one of these miscreants had frayed, and a passing breeze caused it to part as horse and rider approached. The sudden descent of the unwholesome cadaver startled both alike. The mare reared up and Ephraim, snatched at her rein, forgetful of his sore thumb, only to release his hold in pain so swiftly that he became unbalanced and tumbled to the ground, whereupon the frightened horse bolted. By the time Ephraim was back on his feet it had vanished over the brow of Salt Hill.

He was never to see it again. After an hour's fruitless search he abandoned the beast as lost and prevailed upon a carrier of rabbit skins to convey him as far as Maidenhead Thicket.

He had now some five miles to cover on foot, which brought him to the seat of Sir Andrew Chipchase at an hour when the Colonial Secretary and his horse were at table and not to be disturbed.

Lord George to Ephraim's agreeable surprise was none the less sober enough to sign the precious dispatch on his eventual appearance, though as indignant as anticipated over the courier's belated arrival on his own two legs.

"Blunderhead! How the devil do you suppose you can now reach Twyford in time to board the flyer?"

"I hoped, m'lord, I might be supplied here with a fresh mount."

"And lose another horse for good Sir Andrew?"

"It might be best," the latter interposed, "for my man to convey the fellow to Twyford in the packet. Time is pressing if he is to catch up with the coach, and that way he will travel fastest."

The squire's coachman was a surly fellow, who grumbled at being sent out at this late hour; he vented his vexation by driving so furiously that they overtook the coach when it had yet to pass through Twyford.

"So-ho!" the squire's man sang out. "Hold there! I bring you a passenger!"

The flyer lumbered to a halt. "Room for one inside," called down the guard.

Ephraim's three fellow passengers opened drowsy eyes and regarded him suspiciously as he joined them. Satisfied that he appeared an unlikely robber, they resumed their interrupted slumber. It was not long before Ephraim, fatigued by the day's activities was himself as soundly asleep.

He was shaken awake to find the coach stopped at an inn for a change of horses, the guard reminding him that he had yet to pay his fare. "Where are you bound for, sir?"

"All the way — to Bristol."

"Bristol?" The guard swung round with a guffaw to the driver. "Passenger here wants us to carry him to Bristol!"

"And why not?" queried Ephraim as the pair awoke the other passengers with their laughter.

"Because we travel to Portsmouth. You are in the wrong coach, friend."

Ephraim groaned as he alighted. "How far have we come since leaving the Bristol highway?"

Thomas Ernest Bennett Clarke, always known as T.E.B., is best known for his screenwriting work on such films as *Passport to Pimlico*, *The Blue Lamp*, *The Lavender Hill Mob* and *A Tale of Two Cities*. He has also written many books, among them his autobiography, *This Is Where I Came In*. He is now aged 74 and lives in Oxted, Surrey.

"Four miles. At frippence a mile — one shilling."

Ephraim paid up with ill grace and once more took to his feet. The church clock at Twyford was striking one of the morning when he trudged wearily into that village, where suddenly he was exhilarated by the sight of a coach about to pull away from the local inn. He ran eagerly to it.

"Are you the Bristol flyer?"

"Aye, that we are — but not to be detained. Three hours lost by a broken wheel."

"One moment, I beg of you — I would travel with you."

"Full up... Let 'er go, Joe."

"Wait!" cried Ephraim, running beside the coach. "I am in the King's service — I carry a vital dispatch —"

But his words were lost in the clapping of hooves and the rumble of wheels.

He was slowing to a disconsolate halt when he observed that this was a basket coach; one that carried the baggage in a basket on wheels behind it. A wild run, a desperate leap and he was in it among the trunks, cases and parcels.

Despite being jolted without cease, and belaboured by the baggage whose basket he shared, Ephraim was now so exhausted that he sank back into a troubled sleep till the coach was approaching Hungerford at the hour before dawn.

His next awakening was rude in the extreme. As he became aware of a strange new silence, the basket was overturned and Ephraim was emptied out with the rest of its contents.

A voice cried, "By God, a stowaway!" And Ephraim found himself staring up at a fearsome pair of masked faces. Dragged to his feet, he saw the coach receding in the distance and cursed the idle guard who had failed to perceive the highwayman's old trick of cutting loose

the trailing basket. Ephraim informed his captors. They laughed. "Then our poor country is indeed in sore straits," declared the leader as they relieved him of his purse and his watch.

"I swear I speak the truth!" Ephraim cried. "See, this is the dispatch I carry."

The highwayman perused it. "Lord love us, but it is true!" He shook his head in wonder, and handed back the precious document. "On, friend, and deliver your dispatch. Tom, let him have the grey."

Whereupon the second robber entered the trees bordering the road and came back with a handsome grey horse already equipped with saddle and bridle. Ephraim could scarcely believe his good fortune. "Sir, you are indeed a gentleman of the road, he exclaimed, as he was given a hand to the saddle. "But I would remind you that you still hold my purse."

At which the highwayman laughed again. "Patriotism is one thing, money another. On your way and be thankful."

For Ephraim it had been a merciful escape, but he had yet some 60 miles to cover to Bristol: a prodigious distance for one without means to provide for himself or his mount. Yet it would have to be essayed if he were to catch the packet *Hippocampus* before she sailed this night.

He had ridden but three of those miles when he beheld a strange sight indeed. A man had sprung out from a hedgerow with arms stretched wide in entreaty: a man of middle age, without clothes, without a wig, as naked and bald as on his exit from his mother's womb.

"Kind sir, I beg of you —" he began, then of a sudden his countenance changed. "Villain!"

That is my horse you ride!" Ephraim dismounted with a sigh. "Believe me, sir," he said, "I am no thief. This fine horse was a gift from the one who robbed you."

"A likely tale!"

"You are in no state to call me a liar," Ephraim observed. "However, recalling the Good Samaritan I feel bound to offer you my cloak. Let us journey on together."

His words brought a fresh change in the naked man's demeanor. Gratefully he covered his bare shivering body. "You shall tell me as we ride," he said, "by what remarkable means you moved that rogue to such benevolence."

The other, a merchant of Swindon, listened with sympathy to Ephraim's story. "I would that this animal could carry you on to your destination," he avowed, "but I fear I must reclaim it when our ways divide, for I have 13 further miles to travel."

Ephraim was nettled by his presumption. "Then I'll be re-torted," must reclaim my cloak, and you shall ride those 13 miles as did Lady Godiva, though without her compensating tresses."

"So we reach an impasse! But I hold the trump card, my friend. Retain my horse and I shall put about that you are the one destined for the gibbet."

Ephraim had no choice but to give way; hence the new day began with the hapless fellow back on his blistered feet, now parted from his cloak and disconsolately aware of darkening clouds that were soon to bring rain.

Turning at the approach of every vehicle travelling westward, he manipulated his fateful thumb in a gesture of appeal; but none would halt for him. Wary of their indifference he determined on a bolder measure. Upon the appearance of a one-horse phaeton driven by a stout elderly person of elegant attire, he stepped into the roadway with right hand raised and called: "Halt in the name of the King!"

His demand had a most surprising consequence. "Take this, villain, but spare my grey hairs!" cried the old gentleman, flinging out an object which Ephraim endeavoured from instinct to catch, again forgetting his sore thumb. Struck sharply on that digit, he dropped the catch in a manner that would have earned him the scorn of his stoolball team. Before he had retrieved the object from the ground the driver had whipped up his horse and was away beyond call.

Ephraim discovered that he had been flung a purseful of coins. True, they were but pennies; if

however he were to sink his natural pride this windfall might be used to carry him through several stages in the next west bound coach.

Alas! His new hopes vanished after he had arrived footsore at Beckhampton and delightedly found a coach for Bristol about to depart, for upon opening its door he was met by a voice familiar to his ear. "Always my habit to carry a purse of small coins to distract the scoundrels whilst I make a rapid departure." Fortunately the speaker's back was turned, allowing Ephraim to make his own rapid departure.

So here he was back at a limp on the road, daring no longer to attempt the arrest of a vehicle. When at length a carrier's wagon was slowed on the ascent of Derry Hill he had no hesitation in mounting it from the rear and admitting himself to its interior.

The canopied wagon was dark within, but from its odour and the dim sight of a furry heap Ephraim deduced that he was riding again with a carrier of skins. He stretched down thankfully on the soft heap, only to be hurled rudely to the floor as his couch erupted beneath him. Rising in bewilderment he was faced by a large black bear itself doing likewise. Ephraim's cry of terror was matched by the grizzly's indignant roar, the row bringing a rubicund face through a gap in the wagon's covering.

"Ha, an uninvited passenger! And not the first to pay for his brass with the shakes — though in truth my good creature is docile as a lamb. Down, Barnabas, we have no objection to company. And you, weary traveller, come join me on my box if you wish."

Ephraim moved gratefully to his side, explaining the plight which had driven him to these straits. His new friend, Bob Withers, was bound for Bath's summer fair with his performing bear. "You shall carry round the bowl as he dances to the tune of my whistle!" "That I will gladly do," Ephraim promised, "on my return from Bristol; but first I must proceed there with all haste. It is now past noon and I have yet to learn the hour of the evening tide on which that ship must sail."

They were met at Bath fairground by a spectacle that Bob Withers viewed with concern. A parish constable with raised staff preceded another leading a black horse on which was mounted a plump and pretty wench.

"Why, Bet, what mischief is this?" cried the bear trainer.

The lady tossed her curls scornfully. "I am being sent on my way by order of the city fathers. They denounce me as a lewd person who offends against public decency. I am off now to Bristol, for there are broader minds in seafaring towns."

"You will be missed by us here," said Bob. "But you can be of great benefit to my friend, who carries a message for King George."

"Aye, 'tis true," Ephraim declared. "Carry me with you to Bristol and His Majesty shall be informed of the service rendered by his loyal subject. Constable, release her in the King's name!"

Mounted behind the wench, his hands around her ample waist, Ephraim told her of all that had befallen him. "But enough of my woes. What, pray, are the city fathers' bile towards one so comely?"

"Raise your hands higher," she bade him. And when he complied, "Higher yet." Then, hearing his gasp of wonder, "Aye, you ride with the famous Bet Marvell, only woman in the west of England with three breasts — and the only one in the world, I warrant, who can dance a jig with a wine-glass balanced on each of them."

It was few minutes before seven of the evening when this remarkable woman galloped into Bristol and reined up at the dockside. Ephraim flung himself from her horse's rump and gazed in perplexity around the forest of a person of seafaring appearance mounted on a bollard, he said: "Pray inform me, good fellow, where I may find the packet *Hippocampus*."

"On the high seas," was the disconcerting answer. "Sailed for America an hour since."

"I fear we have lost the war, George."

"Stuff and nonsense, Prime Minister. A setback I acknowledge."

Lord North shook his head dolefully. "It would have been so different had Howe received his orders in time to join Burgoyne at Saratoga. According to Ben Arnold, Washington has admitted that his poor ragged army could not have withstood a combined assault."

"Washington!" snorted Germaine. "Can't believe a word that fellow says. Always was a damned liar."

"What is it this time?" exclaimed Martha Diplock as her husband trumped in holding a kerchief to a blackened eye.

"Naught for concern, my love. The ball descended upon me from out of the sun."

He spoke in gentle appeasement, for although many weeks had passed since his return from Bristol he smarted still from the lash of her wifely tongue. Thus now he was swift to add: "But this occurrence was the last of its kind, for I am resolved to play no more stoolball."

His wife was moved to embrace him in her relief. "At last, Master Diplock, you have acquired wisdom," she declared. "For at your age another such mishap could have serious consequences."

Interview/Sheridan Morley

Egan, the man for Shaw

Insofar as this country has a Royal Shavian Company, its artistic director is Eddie Kulkundis; within the past five years, unaided by state or other subsidy, he has been buying up the rights in Shaw's plays with the same determination once shown on film by Gabriel Pascal. The result has been a sequence of four major West End revivals (the Rigg-McCowan *Pygmalion*, the McKellen-Dench *Too True to Good*, the Deborah Kerr *Candida* and the Susan Hampshire-Richard Pasco *Man and Superman*) and now, to the Lyric has come a fifth: Richard Briers and Peter Egan star in the first *Arms and the Man* to have reached Shaftesbury Avenue since the war.

It is, as Egan points out, a sizable risk: "No permanent company, no repertoire of other hits in which to slide, just a group of actors meeting for the first time in an Old Vic rehearsal room knowing they had got a month to come up with a production bound to be compared at least by older theatregoers to the classic wartime *Oliver* production at the New."

For Egan this is a return to the West End for the first time since 1977 when he was engaged, albeit only briefly, as Mr. Rols in a somewhat catastrophic stage biography of Rols and Joyce by William Douglas Home which, shrouded to a halt after running into some of the worst press reviews since Pearl Harbor. Since then, however, he has not been idle: "I've been directing for the first time, in the Lyric, Hammersmith, studio and then a revival of *Rattle of a Simple Man* which John Alderton and Pauline Collins took in to the Savoy. You learn a lot about acting by trying to help others do it; above all you learn to treat the director as a friend instead of a judge or referee."

The son of a Kilburn quantity surveyor, Egan was born in London 35 years ago and grew up with remarkably little intention of becoming an actor: "I used to loathe and dread school plays, to such an extent that I pretended to have lost my voice the night I was supposed to be Bill Sykes in *Oliver Twist*; what I did want to be was a painter, but then in my teens I began basking in the Old Man in the Edgeware Road when they were still from time to time doing plays, and I thought perhaps there might be some sort of future for me designing scenery. So I joined an



Egan: back in West End after four years

amateur theatre group in Ladbroke Grove to learn about design, and one week they needed somebody to play the mad old uncle in *Arms and the Man* and their choice seemed to be me."

Egan had left school at 15 and found work in a variety of trades; for a while he was a porter in an auction room, and then spent several months running a shop for a bespoke tailor: "But by about 17 I knew that I did after all want to act professionally, and so I auditioned for RADA, the Central and Bristol, giving my Benedick from *Much Ado* and a curious soliloquy about a man in front of a firing squad. To my surprise all three schools offered to take me on, and I chose Bristol because I liked the idea of it being attached to a real theatre. But they didn't have a course starting for another whole year and I was far too impatient for that, so I settled for RADA instead, where I was in a class with Hywel Bennett and Timothy Dalton."

In his fifth term he and some fellow students staged an amateur *Julius Caesar* in a local theatre at Camden Town; the man who is still Egan's agent, Jimmy Sharkey, happened to be in front and

offered to take him on as a client. Though he was in mid-RADA, Sharkey suggested he start going to auditions for the experience.

"The first one I went to was for John Clements who was just taking over at Chichester. I read a bit of something, and my mentor Clements offered me an understudy job that very season. I started to explain that I wasn't really available yet, on account of RADA, but Clements took the view that there was no time like the present and rang RADA and got me released."

So there, at Chichester, in 1966, Egan made his professional debut as the cream-faced loon in *Macbeth* and spent the rest of the season understudying "every male in the company under thirty", a category which then included both Tom Courtenay and John Standing. The following year, after spending a winter in the Bournemouth Rep, Egan went back to Chichester and this time found himself understudying Michael Aldridge as Hushabye in *Heartbreak House*.

"Somehow, with a very healthy and reliable actor like that, the understudy never thinks he'll be needed so I'd only ever learnt the first two acts and it was one night in

the second interval that Clements came off and said 'His voice has gone - you'll have to play Act III'. I started to explain about having only learnt up to Act II. Clements thought for a minute, said 'Well, we can't go back to the bloody beginning' and pushed me on."

Since then Egan has had a relatively untroubled career, though screen successes have usually been followed by curious periods of unemployment.

"I got a 'best newcomer' award for *The Hireling* and didn't make another film for seven years. After doing a whole year on television as Oscar Wilde in *Lillie* and then another year as the Prince Regent for the BBC, people in the theatre seemed to think I'd emigrated."

"If you're as determinedly freelance an actor as I am, you often don't get a crack at the major Shakespeare roles, which perhaps an actor of my age ought to be doing; but I was very unhappy at the National and not a lot happier at the RSC where I went to do *Two Gentlemen of Verona* for Robin Phillips."

"I don't know what you have to do now to make sure that a theatre survives; to make sure a career survives you have to cut down the rubbish, limit yourself to saying only one or two mortgage-payment television jobs a year, and above all you have to be able to say no."

"You can do anything as an actor, at least if you work in the live theatre; fifty per cent of television is technical, a matter of being on the right marks at the right moment, but you go and play *Macbeth* at Leatherhead, as I just have, with a scarred finger to show for it, and the evening is yours. You can take the rest of the year and that is the most marvellous feeling."

The basketball court of the Elmbridge Leisure Centre on the bank of the Thames at Wotton has been turned into a studio of benches tiered on scaffolding face a curved table festooned with microphones in front of a semi-abstract depiction of a map of London. The scene is set for the pilot of London Weekend's replacement for *Look Here*, its valuable erratic magazine about television. Ironically, it is to be called *London Talking*, or rather - *London Talking*.

Half an hour late, and primed with a couple of glasses of inferior wine, the small audience is addressed by a worried-looking producer who tells them they have been recruited by LWT's researchers in Walton-on-Thames and that he knows they are going to ask questions about American imports, quiz programmes and sport, but they must feel free to sound off about anything else they like.

There is no attempt to disguise the "warm" or attempt to discover if a speaker from the floor can be heard by everyone else, an omission that is going to cause problems later, and the question-master, John Pardee, ex-Liberal MP, shambles on without introduction.

Behind him wander the evening's panellists, and it is evident that LWT has spared no expense, as three of them - managing director Brian Tesler, *Fortnight* show and host Jeffrey Segal, and sports controller John Bromley - are on the staff. The fourth turns out to be an older and plumper Hughie Green, who is to spend the rest of the evening in a grumpy and silent, which is

not surprising because he is no longer a performer and never was prominent as a producer or planner.

There is a further delay as they have a second set of unsightly microphones pinned on them, and we are finally off. No, we're not. Pardee has not allowed enough time for the sound operator to thrust a mike in front of the first questioner, so would he mind repeating his question? It turns out to be "Why do we have to buy in such appalling rubbish as the Johnny Carson show - when we can make our own?" (Our own rubbish?) Another questioner produces some eggs and starts throwing them in the air in the manner of Carson, to prove that anyone can throw eggs about and get a laugh. He does.

As an illustrative clip, the producer seems to have picked the worst bit of Carson - in which he and Burt Reynolds are squinting shaving soap over each other - and the big boss, Brian Tesler, in his answer is testy about the choice. His main defence is that it cost very little - a quarter the cost of *The Pyramid* in which his lieutenant, David Bell, How much is that, presses Pardee. He won't say. Why not?

"Because if you tell the public what it costs they expect their money's worth. It's a showbusiness rule. It's like what Vanessa Redgrave should not do or be in politics. I don't get it, and I don't think anybody else does."

Hughie Green says he was once on Carson's *Fortnight* show and his regret is that we have not seen the serious side of Johnny, who is "the greatest chat-show man in the English-speaking language."

Pardee, who is going to do an exercise in public opinion-taking. He asks those who

enjoyed the Johnny Carson show to put up their hands. About ten do so. How many disliked it? About 40 put up their hands. Swallowing hard, Pardee quickly says: "Pretty even, as far as I can see from here." Pandemonium, but he won't count them.

Time for the next clip. "We know from our researches that there is a lot of feeling in Walton-on-Thames about the new quiz and so-called game shows which are taking place early on Saturday evening in London Weekend. There follow bits from *Game for a Laugh*, *Punchlines*, and *The Pyramid Game*, in which we see Bill Oddie help a contestant identify the word nurse with the clue that it's the female equivalent of a doctor. Surely that is going to cause some protests among women with raised consciousness. I think, but no, the audience is too busy condemning the whole principle."

"Scheduling gone crazy, a quiz show followed by a game show followed by a quiz show", complains the first questioner, Tesler, grimaces, then answers: "We don't consider it ideal scheduling, either. I'll let you into a secret. We didn't have the goodies ready and nobody else on the network had another show which was of a different kind ready and those three shows found themselves back to back, jowl to jowl."

This is the cue for members of the cast of a sitcom called *Roots to Jump* and complain that, not only was their show ready, it had been running but was rudely taken off after three Fridays at eight o'clock. Whether Pamela Mannion and Jeffrey Segal live in Walton or whether they heard about London Talking and insinuated themselves into the audience, I do not know, but they got very short shrift. "Disaster, disaster. We had to do something."

explained Tesler, with the desperate air of a haunted man who has to tell the truth whether or not it offended the actors or his peers at Yorkshire Television.

Ignoring the diversion, the audience is ready to slam into the trio of quiz and game shows... "All three of them were absolutely dreadful... *Game for a Laugh* left me absolutely speechless... They make me ask what sort of mentality you think you're appealing to?"

In desperation, the producer has allowed the recording of the first half of this supposedly 45 minute programme to run over an hour, presumably in the hope of finding enough complimentary remarks about ITV to make a final edit of the right length which balances the complaints. No luck, and he eventually signals a halt.

The second part is much shorter and is devoted almost solely to rude remarks about ITV sport: the small amount of scheduling of the soccer on Sunday afternoons, the lunacy of having the Cup Final on both channels ("that's the BBC's fault, they won't take it in turns,") not enough minor sports, aren't you corrupting the public with gambling?

It is over, and people are milling about for autographs. I spot the bulky figure of Nick Elliott, LWT's head of features. I shake my head. He shakes his. "Back to the drawing board," he says. He has two weeks to eliminate the faults in the format before he goes on the air with a real first programme in the series. Meanwhile, the people of Walton are getting into their cars wondering when they are going to see themselves on the telly. The answer, I am very much afraid, is never.

Television/Michael Church
Late conversion

Until a couple of days ago, when I realized that it would be my lot to review a programme about him, I had never read a Woodyhouse book. Like many other academic vineyard I had had to translate bits of him into French and German, and had learnt to resent him.

No matter, then, that Jeeves now glides about on ITV recommending *Sherry*. No, matter that Terry Wogan (heaven help us) now models his prose style on that of Plum. Nudged by the eloquent Benny Green, and goaded by an unwontedly graceful Anneke Wills, I open the *Woodyhouse* and discover, very belatedly, a master of English prose.

Thank You, P. G. Wodehouse (BBC2) was both compliment and complement, a centenary tribute turned with clarity and precision. It was obvious from the outset that we were in safe hands: as dramatized pearls punctuated by a pretty ar-deco device led into a deft biographical portrait. The graphics were adroit; the picture of Blandings was a masterpiece of the master never-land of Thirties railway posters. Keeping his welcome new (low) profile,

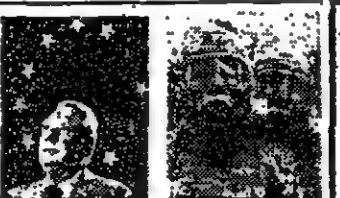
Barry Norman presided with modest assurance. "When you marry, grab a chump. Rap his forehead, and if it rings solid don't hesitate. Joe's always makes the best husbands." Elizabeth Spriggs did sterling service as a succession of battle-axe aunts, as did Michael Aldridge and Jonathan Cecil in the starring roles. The relation between master (valet) and servant (rich chump) was beautifully distilled with the aid of the egregiously check suit. "All right, Jeeves. Give the butler thing away to somebody." "Thank you sir. I gave it to the undergardener last night. A little more tea sir?" Attired in the magic of Saville Row, a gleaming Pencil (David Day Lewis) took on the two-dimensional qualities of the rain-flecked canvas against which he posed.

We bowled through the life, from the sunny beginnings of the Broadway triumphs to the wartime sticky patch and then on to the venerated voice of Cassandra and the dignified, innocent tones of the political intrigue, we watched the master keeping safely fit in his late eighties. It was all dashed interesting stuff about a jolly decent chap.

Diary Quiz

Some questions from this week's news. Answers in Monday's Diary.

1. Who said, "Spend, spend, spend"?
2. Who announced a Dodgey move?
3. The unhappy event of the week?
4. Who followed in their grandmother's footsteps?
5. The Seeds of Time?
6. What has been dubbed the "White House's New China Policy"?
7. Which report said, "Rail to the Chief"?
8. Misunderstood terrorists?
9. Which lady picked up gold, silver and bronze last Saturday?
10. Who, claimed P. G. Wodehouse, was the original Penzance?
11. What do every one in five children have in common?
12. Who accused the Government of siding snugglers?



Good-humoured baiting of politicians seems to be a favourite with caption writers whatever the picture. Our usual bottle of champagne to the reader who sends in the wittiest caption to this picture of Mr. Edward Heath. Many thanks to all those who contributed to an excellent crop of captions. I liked "You sure it said 'Surbiton welcomes careful divers'?" from Christine Johnston of South London. "Rubbish! 'Brashers Grim' from Trevor Fisher of Aberdeen. The winner is Mrs G. Read of Aldington, Kent for "Miss Underworld 1981 - and runner-up."

Radio/David Wade
Going on for 50

Will the BBC get its £50 licence fee - and if it doesn't, what will happen? That was the question behind Sir Ian Trethowan's appearance on *Tuesday Call* to answer listeners' questions about the cost of broadcasting. What you can do with a phone-in to make points clearly depends on what listeners ask, but with a subject like this, I suspect some of the questions to which you want an answer will almost certainly turn up. Or if they don't, the skilful operator can always make it seem as if they did, which may explain why parts of *Tuesday's* programme bore a strong resemblance to the interview with Anthony Howard which had appeared in last week's *Radio Times*.

Where it differed - apart from one or two questions having little to do with the theme - was that on the air Sir Ian managed to give a nicely judged picture of the BBC as one of the one hand compelled by stringency to show more cheap and nasty imports than it would like while at the same time running a tight ship. As for methods of financing, we received the clear and perhaps to be expected impression that, if the alternatives are direct grant (with risks of direct government pressure)

or revenue from advertising (with risks of the falling standards that seem to go with "grinding competition") then the present system has a lot going for it.

But what will happen if that system does not produce the funds did not much enter into the discussion, although reports of the imminent demise of Radio 3 and other impending savageries were firmly denied.

So far as the magic figure of £50 is concerned, it would be astonishing if the BBC had not pitched its demand at least a little higher than it needs to carry on as now. It is also as well to remember that over the past two years we are said to have been suffering from the inadequacy of the last licence award which at the time was greeted with some public gloom and foreboding. Yet it seems to me that during this period the variety, standards and interest of programmes has actually improved.

Why the raising of the licence fee remains the issue that it is, why there is no haste to divorce it from politics has a lot to do with the consideration that no government wishes to reduce the great but unacknowledged

influence it exercises. Which is also why, although we are known to have a politically independent broadcasting system, the broadcasters keep glancing over their shoulders in the direction of Westminster.

If *Tuesday Call* could be said to pose some of the questions the BBC wanted to answer, Ronald Hayman's *Why I am Afraid* (Radio 3, October 13) quite clearly adopted a strategy for introducing the questions that appealed to its author. Setting out as a feature investigating the influence on Kafka's writing of his relationship with his father, it was suddenly interrupted by two commentators, a structuralist and a psychoanalyst. Refused by Hayman, the one wanted to challenge the programme's tendency to equate the man with the work, while the psychoanalyst seemed rather to support it.

An interesting argument developed, slightly but fatally flawed by the fact that these were not true commentators but actors pretending. I found myself wishing that the argument had been staged for real; it might not then have produced all the author wanted; it would have introduced a wholly appropriate element of danger and uncertainty.

Theatre/Irving Wardle
A slippery piece

Arms and the Man

Lyric

As much as any of Shaw's multi-viewpoint later plays, *Arms and the Man* is a slippery piece to get hold of. It seems to present a comic duel between a realist and a pack of self-deluding romantics. But which is which?

Within minutes of the opening, young Raina has turned her back on the starchy night and confessed to an effects of too much opera-going. Louka is presented as a go-getting realist, but no figure fits more into the romantic picture than that of the flirtatious peasant maid tripping about in Bulgarian folk-weave. And in the end it is the supposed arch-romantic Sergius who settles for a down-to-earth marriage, and the arch-realist Bluntschli who carries off the Christmas tree fairy.

The standard explanation for such reversals is that Shaw turned the Victorian stage categories inside out. The point that emerges very clearly from Jonathan Lynn's production is that whatever else he was up to, Shaw was also careful to leave Victorian stage-craft in perfect working order.

This intention is inscribed in Alan Tagg's stage which reduces the Petkoff establishment, with its fretwork balconies and distant mountain

prospects to an assembly of naively pictorial back-cloths and insubstantial box interiors. Boucault would look as much at home there as Shaw.

The action that develops within this toy theatre space likewise pays due respect to the melodramatic values. Raina's night sky may look as artificial as a sherry advertisement, but as soon as the fleeing Bluntschli breaks into her room, the atmosphere becomes charged with peril. The threat to her life, and the search for Bluntschli are played seriously; and so are these later melodramatic devices as Petkoff's missing coat and the fatal photograph.

The effect is to give full strength to a good story, and to show the characters switching dizzyingly between dolls and human beings. This process goes too far in the case of Anna Nygh's Louka, who pushes her defiant Carmen routine beyond the point of no return; and if there is a mature personality lurking inside Alice Krige's pouting Raina it is invisible to me.

I hold the production mainly to blame for this. It is a key factor in the plot that Raina is not a young girl but a woman in her twenties; but Mr Lynn none the less has strewn her room with soft toys including a jingling

rabbit that she hugs in bed. When she takes pity on the exhausted Bluntschli, swinging on his sword arm and holding on to him like a crumpled sack, it is as though she were adding a battered teddy bear to her collection.

Things work out much better between Raina and Peter Egan's Sergius, each reinforcing the other's protestations on the "higher love" and then simultaneously erupting faces to the audience as if cueing the pit band for a duet. Another form of old popular entertainment comes from Pat Heywood who plays the socially ambitious mother in the likeness of a burly pantomime dame, hurling her cap over the set like a cricket ball at the arrival of visitors.

It is a tribute to Mr Egan and Richard Briers that the central Shavian duel also remains firmly within the Victorian convention. Even when owning up to his identity confusions, Mr Egan keeps up his booming delivery and heroically statuesque air of the romantic hero. He is the real chocolate cream soldier. Mr Briers makes comic contact with him through a gender and more self-deprecating manner than Bluntschli usually adopts. Mr Briers has a long way to go playing put-upon characters, and it is good to find him going into comic forward drive with no loss of his wry charm and quiet irony. I have seldom heard Shaw better phrased.

Concerts/Hilary Finch
Homage to a friend

LSO/Abbado

Festival Hall

Homage was quietly paid last night by the London Symphony Orchestra and Claudio Abbado to their late President, Karl Böhm, in a dignified and unapologetic performance of Mozart's *Masonic Funeral Music*.

This meditation on mankind's "true and best friend" (Mozart's words), was appropriate a tribute to Brahms's Eighth Symphony was a jubilant affirmation of life at the start of the LSO's national tour in which they will play the work in each concert. One hopes that by next Thursday in Birmingham not too much of last night's rough animal energy will have been spent, but that some of its coarser edges - the overheated dynamic levels of the first movement, the braying brass of the last - will have been fined down a little.

Kubelik once remarked at a rehearsal, "In Bohemia, my friends, the trumpet does not summon to war - always to the dance". And while there was plenty of the spirit of the carnival in the last movement's variations, its quieter episodes could have had a sharper energy of their own with more careful, less cavalier phrasing.

Before the interval, Maurizio Pollini was the soloist in a perhaps inevitably controversial performance of Brahms's Second Piano Concerto. It was not the warm-hearted, ruggedly magnificent Brahms that many in the audience may well have preferred to hear: someone sitting near me remarked of Pollini, "What doesn't feel Brahms". What Pollini does feel is the ebb and flow of an idea's energy, the constructional life of the building, even if it is of harder, less richly decorated materials. He will never expand within a phrase for short-term af-

fect; his climaxes are built, rather than burgeoning. Most important, he always refreshes the taste buds and nowhere more truly than in the almost throwaway grace and dryly sardonic rigour of the last movement's episodes of his gross Viennese schmaltziness. The orchestra responded alertly, but nervously to some volatile tempi, but there were more than a few moments of sour intonation, and last night the energy seemed to be geared rather than drawn out of them.

Two leading international violinists will be playing in November at public concerts with the BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra under Wilfried Boettcher: Ruggiero Ricci will play Paganini's Concerto No. 4 at the City Hall, Sheffield, on November 6, while Igor Stravinsky will be the soloist in the Brahms Concerto at the Victoria Hall, Hanley, on November 10.

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Gardeners and Farmers have found Hawkins boots and shoes ideal. Many thanks to all those who contributed to an excellent crop of captions. I liked "You sure it said 'Surbiton welcomes careful divers'?" from Christine Johnston of South London. "Rubbish! 'Brashers Grim' from Trevor Fisher of Aberdeen. The winner is Mrs G. Read of Aldington, Kent for "Miss Underworld 1981 - and runner-up."

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T 17/10/81

SONNY ROLLINS
And His Band
IN CONCERT
THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE
THURS. 22nd OCTOBER 1981 at 7.30pm

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Bridge/Jeremy Flint

No shortage of technique

Technique is the bridge expert's scalpel. Any amount of accurate diagnosis or clever deduction will be profitless if a player lacks the dexterity to put the knowledge to good use. All those taking part in the world championship for the Bermuda Bowl which begins in America on Tuesday are excellent technicians.

This will be Pakistan's first Bermuda Bowl. Few would dispute that Zia Mahmood, who plays most of his bridge in England, will be Pakistan's star player. If some British masters irreverently suggest that Zia's bidding may be more intelligible to his compatriots than to them, none would deny the quality of his card play. Experts enjoy the reputation of being good "guessers". On this hand, Zia gave a simple but effective demonstration of a "guess" that wasn't.

Rubber bridge. Game all. Dealer South.

♠ 10 7 6 2
♥ 10 3
♦ 10 8 5 3
♣ 7 2

W N E S
No 3NT No 2NT
No No

♠ 10 9 8 7
♥ 10 9 8 7
♦ 10 9 8 7
♣ 10 9 8 7

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Opening lead ♠ 4

Deferring his vital decision in the club suit until he had assembled all the available

clues, Zia won the ♠ A and cashed his three top hearts. On the third round of hearts, West discarded a diamond. Zia then cashed the ♠ K and the ♠ Q to confirm his impression that the spades were divided 4-4.

With no perceptible pause, he played the ♠ K and took the successful club finesse. Lucky inspiration? Not at all. Unless West had unorthodoxly preferred to lead a spade from a four-card suit, rather than a diamond from a five-card suit, the finesse was a certainty. West was known to have four spades and only two hearts. Unless he had five diamonds, West must have three clubs.

Great Britain will also be playing in the Bermuda Bowl. This year, Claude Rodrigue is not a member of the team. His skilful play of this hand supports the belief that the team will miss him.

Rubber bridge. N/S game and 40 part score. Dealer South.

♠ 10 9 8 7
♥ 10 9 8 7
♦ 10 9 8 7
♣ 10 9 8 7

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♥ 10 9 8 7
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Opening lead ♠ 7

Rodrigue won the heart lead with dummy's ♠ K. He led

a small diamond from dummy intending to duck the trick to West, but East alertly played the ♠ 9, forcing declarer's ♠ K. Rodrigue continued with the ♠ 8. West discarded the ♠ 4 and East won with the ♠ J. Fearing that the clubs in dummy would make a club switch unproductive, East returned the ♠ 9. Declarer covered with the ♠ Q, losing to West's ♠ A. West cashed his winning hearts and switched to the ♠ 10, which was covered in turn by dummy's ♠ Q. East's ♠ K, and declarer's ♠ A.

Rodrigue paused to take stock. He had lost four tricks and made only three. The ♠ J and the two minor aces would bring his tally to six. If, as appeared probable, West's distribution was 3-4-1-5, East could be end played to provide a seventh trick. But you win few medals by going one down. After some thought, Rodrigue played the ♠ 4. West was obliged to win with the ♠ 9. West's hand was reduced to nothing but clubs. His obligatory club return provided one of the missing tricks. When Rodrigue cashed the ♠ A, the vice turned on East, who could no longer retain guards in spades and diamonds.

The South American championships provided an upset when Argentina proved too strong for the favourites, Brazil. Consequently the irrepressible Gabriel Chagas will be absent from this year's Bermuda Bowl. In Valkenburg, Chagas stayed in the same hotel as the British team. His love of the game is such that he would describe bridge hands endlessly over

the breakfast table. In Le Figaro, Jose Le Dentu recalls this hand which Chagas played in the South American championships when he was only 28.

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Chagas was South and the contract was four hearts. East took the opening lead of the ♠ 2 with the ♠ A and returned the ♠ Q. Chagas won in hand with the ♠ A and played the ♠ 3. The purpose of this odd-looking play was not to steal a trick, but to create an extra entry to dummy. West took the ♠ K and persisted with a second trump. Chagas took the ♠ K, cashed the ♠ A, discarding a club, and ruffed a spade in his hand. He re-entered dummy with the ♠ 10 and ruffed another spade. He returned to dummy with the ♠ J and ruffed a third spade. West could overruff, but to no avail, because dummy's spade, and the last trump, would win the remaining tricks.

West discarded his last diamond. Now Chagas played the ♠ A. Once again, West could not gain by ruffing, so he discarded a club. A club ruff provided Chagas with his tenth trick. A most unusual reverse dummy, reminiscent of the many brilliant hands with which Chagas bemused the drowsy British team over the coffee and boiled eggs.

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Collectors' Diary/Geraldine Norman

Love's labour found

Shoparound

by Diana Pollock
Beryl Downing is away

Foul weather friends

Somewhat I had not thought of the umbrella business as capricious until Mr Harvey, manager of James Smith's splendid umbrella emporium, said so. It all depends on the weather. Rain sells lots of brollies; fair weather doesn't. Of course they also deal in canes, parasols, walking sticks, even the occasional state umbrella for an African chief and ceremonial sticks to whirl before military bands on parade.

Their rain-to-rain customers come in for tassels and simple repairs, done while you wait. Recovering and the rescue of bent frames can be done in the workrooms above, where they still make umbrellas by hand of the best materials. The original Mr Smith set up in business in 1830. His son moved to the present premises in 1867 and a fourth generation is now in charge at 55 New Oxford Street, London WC1.

Personal service is a personal pleasure; dealing with craftsmen who know their skills and love their work makes anyone who has once shopped at James Smith come back from the furthest shores or across continents.

The choice of handles is enormous — hickory, maple, apple, malacca, rosewood, ebony, leather, stag's horn. Calcutta lizard (very expensive and rare).

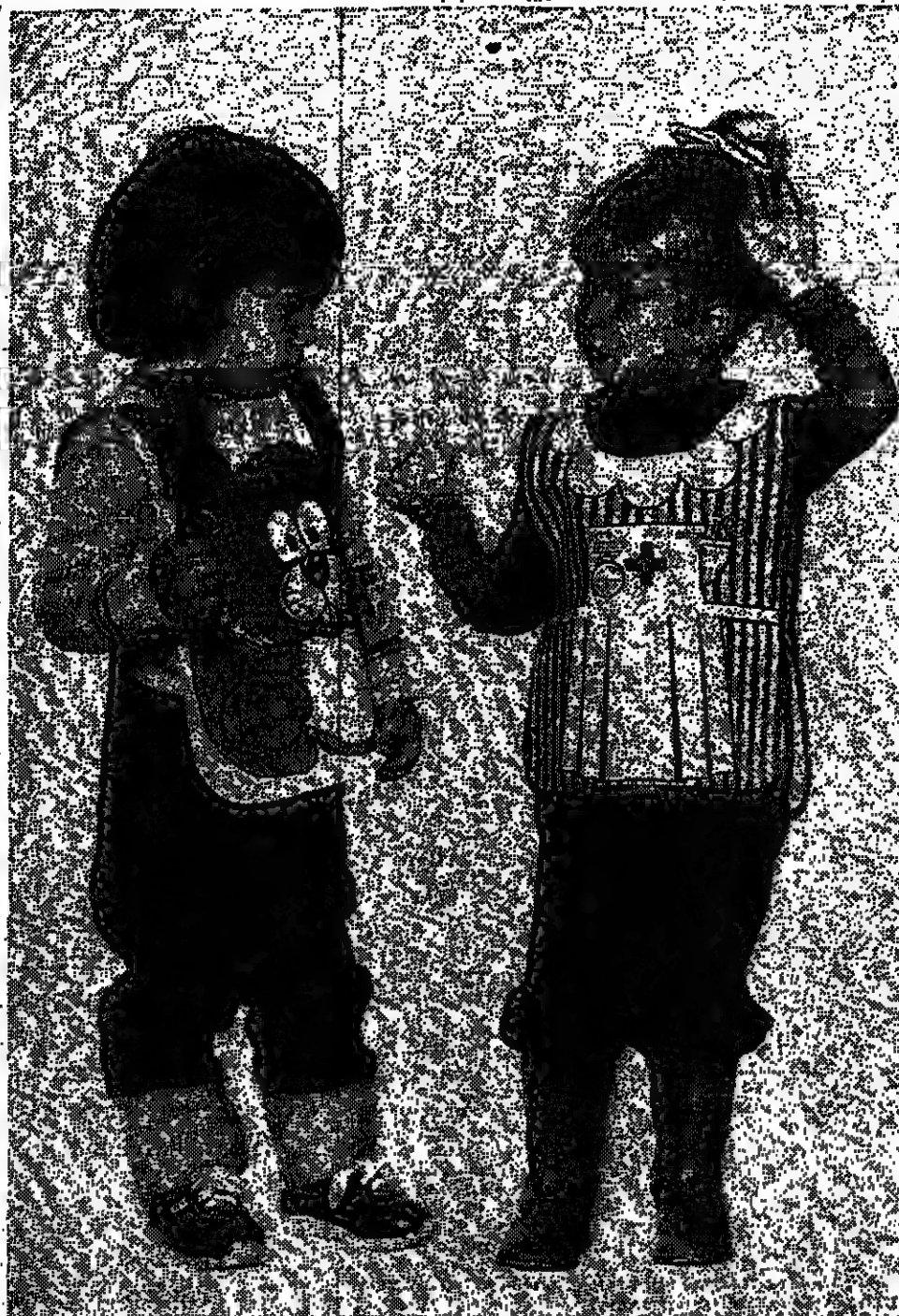
The length of the umbrellas can be thoroughly uncomfortable if you aren't standard size. (What's that, anyway?) They have a special measuring stick with a telescopic end to find the exact length to suit a customer. Ends can be cut, ferrules adjusted, handles modified.

Perhaps handmade umbrellas have no place in our present age and it is certainly not easy to get trained staff. It all goes with the shop's remarkable facade, which has been replaced to match exactly the design and lettering



from the 1890s. They cannot quite find out if the building is listed, but by now are thankful that they never made so much money that anyone tarted the whole thing up with glass and metal trim. At the moment it all hides behind a structure of scaffolding but is still a delight and well worth a detour — except on Saturdays when the shop is closed.

The price is in the handle — real ivory costs £250, plastic as little as £5.75.



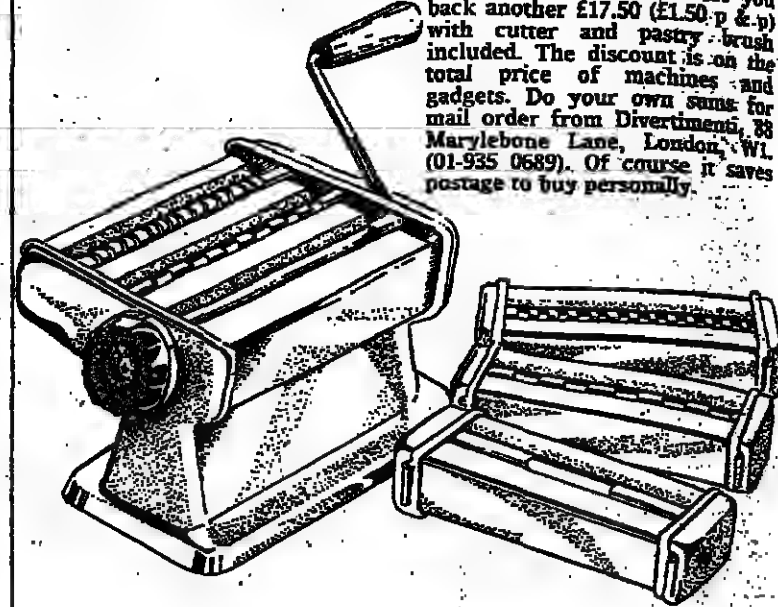
As cover-ups for tiny tots these sturdy, plastic, wipeable tabards are just the job. They only measure 15 inches from shoulder to hem, and have bootlace ties on each side. As well as the nurse's outfit and rabbit shown here, there's a scarlet guardsman's tunic with a VC on the medal line. The price is £2.75 (plus 35p. p & p) from Barker's of Kensington; all branches of Chiesmans as well as the Army & Navy Stores at Guildford, Camberley, Bromley, Eastbourne, Aldershot and Chichester. Photograph by Jeany Savage.

Pasta by the yard

Your family may have to be great pasta eaters to make it worthwhile buying a machine to produce the stuff by the yard. If they are then Divertimenti's October offer of 15 per cent off the price of their Pasta Maker plus any one of five other attachments is for you. The

machine itself is £19.80 (£24.00 p & p) with its two sizes of tagliatelle cutters. There are four other possible attachments for pasta in 1.5, 4, 8 or 50mm widths at £8.50 each (£1 p & p each).

A Ravioli Maker fits on the main machine and will set you back another £17.50 (£15.00 p & p) with cutter and pastry brush included. The discount is on the total price of machines and gadgets. Do your own sums for mail order from Divertimenti, 88 Marylebone Lane, London, W1 (01-335 0689). Of course it saves postage to buy personally.



Dodging in to see the experts

● Praise for Dodge City, for realizing that do-it-yourselfers need expert help. Chaps on the floor in their 34 branches are more than shop assistants reaching for what you want from the shelves. They have plumbers in the plumbing section, wallpapering specialists in the wall-covering department. They have rethought the graphics, too, so it's easier to find what you need. Their newest shop opens today in Cardiff and another opens in Aberdeen next week.

● Good antique furniture deserves loving care but it can be hard to find the craftsman to do the rescue work to long-neglected surfaces. But help is here in Colron's Refinishing Range of products in larger branches of Woolworth Texas chain stores and soon in Fads branches. It comes with an excellent illustrated booklet, *How To Be Your Own Restorer*. To dissolve ancient dirt use the Restorer and Cleaner (£2.48, 500ml), followed by Wood Reviver and Liquid Wax (both £1.58 for 250ml) and finishing Wax (£1.78 for 180ml). My efforts have been successful and I am becoming quite ambitious.

● David Mellor, the cutter, will sharpen knives and scissors taken into his shops in Sloane Square,

London, and Manchester. Minimum charge is £1 for about four knives but timing is a bit erratic and depends on vans going to the Sheffield works. A new shop opens at 26 James Street, Covent Garden, London, WC2, soon.

● Re-tinning the insides of copper pans can be done via the Kitchen Supply Shop, Covent Garden Market, or Elizabeth David Shop, Bourne Street, London, SW1. Also by Divertimenti, 88 Marylebone Lane, London, W1.

● Practical information on *How To Cope At Home* is well worth the £5.95 for Barbara Chandler's book (Ward Lock). It covers cleaning, home safety, useful tools, running repairs and how to deal with pests — even burglars. Also new off the presses, the first of a day-to-day home series by Elabur, a book called *Home Care* at 95p from all their stores.

● Resurfacing old, glazed baths is a specialist job but can be done at home — but not glass fibre or plastic ones. Price about £48.75 for white, £58.75 for coloured baths. Bath Services have branches in Sheffield, Leicester, Cambridge, Southampton, Lancaster, and London. Details from Bath Services, 26 Romilly St, London, W1 (01-437 8238/8713).

New shapes in sitting

Inventiveness is far from dead judging by the ideas shown up by this year's Dunelm's Design Awards. Alas, furniture manufacturers are scared to chance their arms on new shapes like this spiral chair which won Arno Bojahr, a freelance designer from Hanover, a well deserved prize. He started life as a carpenter so understands the potential of special fine plywood used for the spiral. Upholstery is high density foam covered with stretch jersey. With other winning designs it's at the Design Centre, Haymarket, London, till November 4; at the Furniture Show, Birmingham from November 10-15.



Right: The three pieces, spiral seat, cruciform base, pack flat.

With a home to run and a young baby to care for Rosemary Papworth finds Woman and Home indispensable. She has an eye for good value...



like this busy November issue!

FOR ITS VARIETY OF COOKING
Our Cordon Bleu team plans a 3-course meal with butterfly lamb as the centrepiece...the perfect steak and kidney pudding...delicious ways with apples and pears...and a multitude of lemon garnishes.

FOR ITS GREAT KNITTING
An enchanting evening jacket in fluffy mohair. And a cut and keep booklet of patterns for dressing our special offer 13" doll.

FOR ITS RELAXING READING
Stories, serials...and a fascinating interview with Hollywood star Stacy Keach.

FOR ITS STIMULATING COMPETITIONS
Write a short story for Woman and Home, and win a beautiful yew wood bureau and lunch with actress Susan Hampshire.

FOR ITS FABULOUS VALUE-FOR-MONEY OFFERS
* Classic velvet suit in 3 colours, 6 sizes
* 75p bargain pattern for a lovely party dress and jacket * A captivating 13" doll to dress
* Holly-pattern cloth for a Christmas table
* Sets of herbs, spices and cake decorations (except fire).



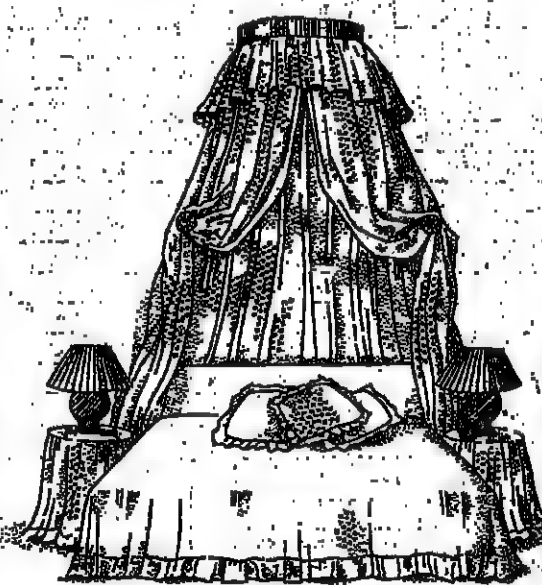
All in the big-value November
Woman and Home

Those good old nights

Unashamed nostalgia is how Enriqueta herself describes her bedroom draperies. Thanks to synthetic fibres every last ruffle is washable and, with Enriqueta's forethought, easy for anyone to put up or take down. The base of the coronas swagging in this illustration is made of chipboard. In the same mood are circular tables with petticoats and glass tops, kidney-shaped dressing tables and stools.

Choose your own colouring from her fabric samples of plain undershirts with muslin or sprigged voile on top. There are ruffled bedsreads, pillows and little bolsters. I wish I had another room to furnish this way. Everything comes with its coverings made up to fit and with mounting instructions. Although Enriqueta will provide the glass table tops she points out that they travel badly and expensively, so her template and a trip to the local glazier might be more sensible.

Illustrated literature, samples and order form are available from Enriqueta Workshops, Devonshire House, Barley Mow Passage, London, W4, with s.a.e. and 11½p stamp.



Full coronas cost from £150, dressed tables from £59.40. Prices include carriage.

The Times Cook/Shona Crawford-Poole

To tickle the palette

Reading bits aloud from books or newspapers can be companionable or downright irritating. Working on the do-as-you-would-be-done-by principle, it is something I try not to do, at least not too often. Once in a while the temptation is too much, and an unexpected cause of that overpowering urge to share is a collection of drawings, recipes and thoughts on food entitled *The Royal Academy of Arts Cookery Book*.

"I take part in cooking, that is to say, I peel things! Apples and onions and I rush into the kitchen and turn the cooker down when I'm told to, to keep things simmering. I'm a sort of 'Cook's Labourer'." This from architect and landscape painter Maxwell Fry, born 1899.

You see what I mean. It is such entrancingly intimate glimpses into the daily lives of distinguished artists that makes such compelling reading, and such irresistible repeating. I had always thought of painters as great burners of midnight oil. Icy garrets and all that. But not a bit of it. They rise with the birds, for the light they say, and all seem to eat enormous breakfasts.

"Maxwell Fry again: 'I have an elaborate breakfast, often in bed now. Orange juice, mixed grill, sausages and mushrooms; fried apple or banana with bacon is very good, and toast and homemade marmalade and coffee. Or sculptor James Butler, born 1931, 'I suppose that my tastes in food are most unexciting and rather simple. I am a cheese and onion man. I am very fond of cheese — very strong mature cheddar, gorgonzola, stilton etc. Or painter, sculptor and poster Jean Cooke, born 1927, 'If I cook, I don't paint. When I was pregnant I used to make an excuse and say I couldn't stand so we had baked beans, baked potatoes and chops. 'We had them for about six years, then I thought 'this is awful' and I tried to change the regime, but the family didn't like change, they liked what they were used to, so it's been hard work trying to introduce new things. 'My father was a grocer and when I was little I used to sit under the counter and eat dog biscuits and crystallized

violets' and if I wanted something more exotic, I used to put my finger in the drawers of spices. I adored dog biscuits. Or painter and writer John Bratby, born 1928, 'When I was at the Royal College of Art, I cooked breakfast in a pan in the Mural School on a Valor oil stove. My student love was baked beans fried slowly in butter and put on buttered toast. The recipes in *The Royal Academy of Arts Cookery Book* are as varied as the work of the academicians, or academicians' wives as it often the case, who contributed them. There are very posh recipes and very simple ones, 'health' foods, foreign dishes and some frightfully fattening puddings. Most, however, are eminently practical and not at all expensive. James Butler contributes a recipe for marinated chicken pieces. (A cup measure holds 250 ml or 8 fl oz).

Marinated chicken pieces
Serves six
6 chicken pieces
For the marinade
1 small onion, chopped

1 clove garlic, crushed
1 tablespoon chopped parsley
Juice of lemon
1 tablespoon sugar
1 teaspoon dried tarragon
2 cups white wine
Freshly ground pepper and a teaspoon of salt
½ cup wine vinegar
Mix all the ingredients together to make the marinade. Leave six pieces of chicken in marinade for at least 6 hours — turning occasionally.
Roast in butter or olive oil in a preheated oven (200°C/400°F, gas mark 6). Or even better, barbecue the pieces on a charcoal fire. (Cooking times depend on the size of the chicken pieces. Stick a skewer into the thickest part of the meat, and if the juice runs clear, not pink, it is ready.)
Jean Cooke describes her blackberry water ice as "the cheapest exotic sweet I know".
Blackberry water ice
Serves four

450g (1lb) blackberries, sieved
110g (4oz) sugar
150ml (½ pint) water
If possible 2 or 3 sweet scented geranium leaves
Make a syrup by boiling the sugar and water together for five or six minutes with two sweet scented geranium leaves. When cool add the berries, and put into the freezing tray with a fresh scented geranium leaf on the top. Cover with foil and freeze at the normal temperature for ice making for 2½ hours.
A tablespoon of two of rosewater makes a fine substitute for the sweet scented geranium leaves. I never have any geranium leaves or rosewater, but we made blackberry water ice every day the summer before last when the sun was so hot and the blackberries were early.

Why tiles are not up against it

One man who feels the recession has done him some indirect good is Christopher Crewe-Reed whose Reject Tile Shop at 178 Wandsworth Bridge Road, London, SW6, is prospering, gently. "People are taking care of their major investment, their homes," he told me.

A visit to his shop certainly explains why customers and their money part company so happily for he has a splendid selection of tiles from Victorian to ultra-modern. Ends of lines are cheapest and prices depend on the rarity of the tile, whether it's embossed, hand-painted or just 'run-of-the-kiln. We fall for these cats, part of a set of six, all six-inch squares, at £2.50 each.

The shop is open till 5pm on Saturdays and postage can be arranged, but bearing in mind the weight, it could be expensive. Phone inquiries to 01-731-6096.



More interest from the banks, page 20

Laker gets further 30 days credit

By Michael Prest
Sir Freddie Laker, chairman of the airline which introduced cheap transatlantic travel, has been given a second 30-day extension of the period at the end of which bank debts of \$12.6m (£6.5m) fall due.

Laker Airways wants a one-year rescheduling of its debts, but the extension means the airline has effectively obtained 60 days' credit on part of its debts.

The first extension period expired on Thursday. But Eximbank, the United States government export credit agency, said yesterday that it had agreed to a postponement by Laker of more than \$5m of principal due on debts it backed.

Eximbank guaranteed a \$7.4m loan made by the Private Export Funding Corporation of New York and other private lenders to Sir Freddie to buy five McDonnell Douglas DC10s worth in total \$228m.

It is also understood that the extension will apply to loans made by Marine Midland bank, Morgan Guaranty Trust, Inter-



Sir Freddie: wants loans rescheduled

national Westminster Bank, and the financing arm of McDonnell Douglas. Those credits were not guaranteed by Eximbank.

In addition, Eximbank made loans of \$56.6m on its own behalf to Laker. The Eximbank board has not yet considered Laker's request for a rescheduling of that debt, but no repayment of that loan is overdue.

A spokesman for Laker said yesterday: "Sir Freddie has instructed me to say 'no comment'." Sir Freddie has consistently said, however, that the airline makes an operating profit. He wants the loans rescheduled because of the fall in the value of sterling since the agreements were made.

Laker Airways also borrowed a further \$131m from a syndicate headed by Midland Bank International to buy three A-300 Airbus from Airbus Industrie. The next payment on this loan falls due in January.

Sir Freddie has asked the bankers to include a "release and recapture" clause in the loan agreements. Bankers say this is standard practice in international loan agreements. He denies, however, that this amounts to a rescheduling, and insists that if agreement is not reached the airline can pay.

While the immediate pressure has been caused by the weak pound, Laker Airways is now facing intensified competition from other airlines which are cutting their fares.

10 pc inflation target certain to be missed

By David Blake, Economics Editor
The annual rate of inflation fell slightly to 11.4 per cent in September, but Whitehall officials admit that the Government seems certain to miss its target of getting the inflation rate down to 10 per cent by the last quarter of the year as higher mortgages and supplementary rate demands take effect.

Price cutting by petrol companies and cuts in bus fares held the increase in prices to 0.6 per cent last month. Higher prices for beer, cigarettes and newspapers contributed to the increase. There was also a jump in the price for eggs and apples.

Although the monthly increase was small, the annual rate of inflation has stuck between 10.9 per cent and 12 per cent for the past six months, and no big declines are in prospect.

There is bad news in store over the next few months as housing costs rise because of higher mortgage charges and supplementary rate demands which are being sent out by many councils. Many nationalized industries also plan to raise their prices, though these are not likely to fuel inflation as they have over the past 18 months. Price increases are planned for gas, coal, telephone charges and rail fares.

In the longer term, the Government has great difficulty in meeting its target of inflation down to 3 per cent by the second quarter of next year. Much will depend on what it does in the Budget, which raised prices significantly this year.

At the moment, there are conflicting pressures on the inflation rate from domestic and international factors. Low pay settlements and rising productivity are holding down labour costs, which account for over half the total costs of manufacturing.

But the fall in the pound is pushing up the costs of raw materials and also increasing some High Street prices.

One bonus for the Government over the past nine months has been the over-achieving series of special sales which have continued throughout the summer. This, squeezed retailers' margins, but high interest rates have kept the shops to go on with special offers in order to keep their stocks down.

Manufacturers are also being forced to trim their profit margins to hold on to their markets.

Sterling slips after BL strike threat

By John Whitmore, Financial Correspondent
The prospect of a full-scale strike at BL caused the pound to lose further ground on foreign exchange markets and made for renewed nervousness in domestic financial markets.

By last night's London close sterling's fall over the week had almost eliminated the recovery of the previous week.

Yesterday's fall of a further 1.6 cents, to \$1.8340, brought the total loss over the week to 6.6 cents. Sterling also lost ground to other leading currencies. Its index against a basket of currencies slipped 0.9 to 87.4, a decline of a full two points since last Friday.

At one stage yesterday afternoon the pound was as low as \$1.8220 in spite of market reports of Bank of England intervention below \$1.83.

Although sterling was weak on its own account, the position was helped by the relative strength of the dollar.

In mid-morning funds moved out of the Deutschmark, pushing the dollar above DM2.20 on rumours of Russian intervention in Poland.

The United States currency maintained most of its gains as dealers covered their positions ahead of the weekly money supply figures.

The failure of sterling to hold its gains of the previous week has inevitably created renewed nervousness over interest rates. As yesterday's weekly Treasury Bill tender the average rate of discount at which bills were allotted rose from 14.81 to 15.34 per cent.

Government stocks lost ground across a broad front, registering falls of about 1.0 of a point. Share prices also fell, the FT 100 index closing 9.3 points lower at 463.4, its lowest level of the day.

Over the week as a whole the index has declined 34.8, bringing it back to within 6 points of its lowest level in late September. Although the BL situation has provided a new worry for markets, international interest rate and exchange rate movements continue to be the preoccupation.

No real upturn in economy

By Our Economics Staff
Cyclical indicators of how the economy is moving fell slightly in August, but remained above the level of the late summer. The indicators, published by the Central Statistical Office, also suggest that any recovery could be short-lived. Both the longer leading indicators and those tracking the short-term trends, fell in August. But all the estimates are subject to substantial revision.

The figures suggest that economic activity stabilized at some point over the summer but that so far there has been no real upturn. The movement of the indicators would suggest that the economy should show some growth over the next few months, but that this may peter out as 1982 wears on.

The shorter leading indicators, which are supposed to predict movements about six months in advance, showed an upward trend about the beginning of the year but have now stopped rising. The longer leading indicators predict the economy about a year in advance.

Mason plan to sell Illingworth stake

By Philip Robinson
Mrs Pamela Mason, the Hollywood star who has been threatening to dismiss two top executives of Illingworth Morris, the Yorkshire textiles group, announced yesterday she plans to sell her 46 per cent stake in the company.

The prospective buyer is Able, a company connected with Mr Alan Lewis, a London property dealer.

Mrs Mason, 65, was not available for comment yesterday. Mr Lewis was said to be in a meeting.

Able will buy 19 per cent of the votes and 14 per cent of the non-voting A shares for £707,718 and take out an option for the remainder which must be exercised within six months for £327,903.

But the option, which would trigger an obligation for Able to make a full takeover bid for Illingworth, depends on approval of the High Court and the withdrawal of the winding-up petition against Loddbury Investment Corporation through which Mrs Mason exercises control over the 46 per cent stake as sole executor of the estate of the late Mr Isidore Oatley.

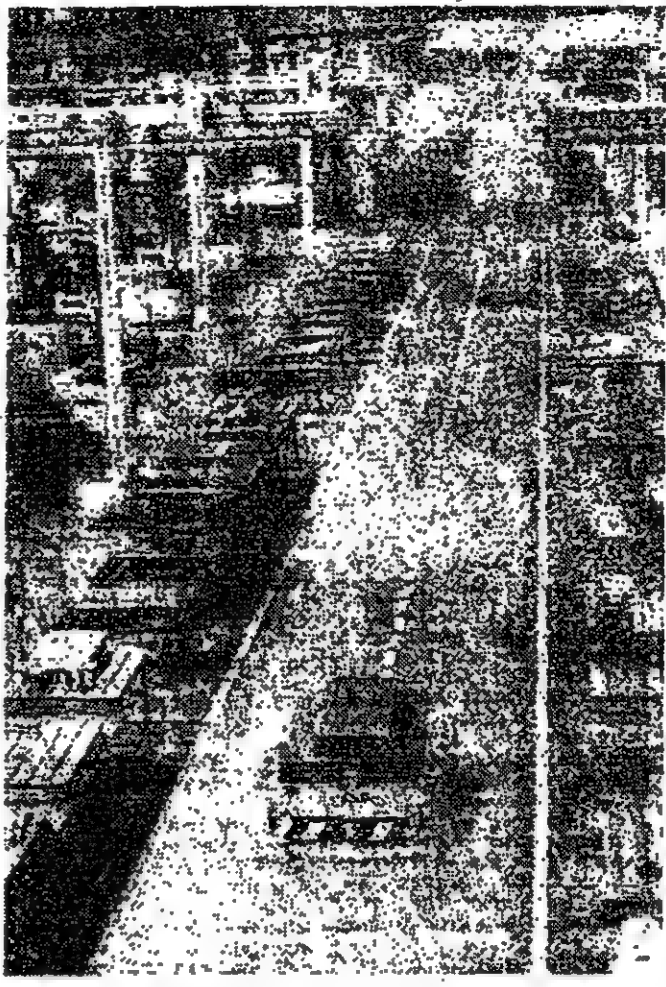
A spokesman for Mr Lewis said Able was an Isle of Man company of which Mr Lewis is a director. As well as being chairman of Hartley Industrial Trust, Mr Lewis, 43, was chairman of the Anglo-Manx Bank and has other trading interests.

The statement to the Stock Exchange came during the High Court hearing of the winding-up petition, and of local agent by Mrs Isabella Blench, Mrs Mason's step sister, to prevent Mrs Mason using her voting control to oust Mr Donald Hanson, the Illingworth chairman, and Mr Peter Hardy, joint chief executive. The hearing was adjourned last night while the petitioners consider their position and should be resumed on Monday.

Mrs Mason, former wife of Mr James Mason, the actor, has said for some time that she was contemplating to sell the stake. She says there are £2m worth of death duties to be paid on her late father's estate.

But if the deal goes through, she will receive only £1m in total. It is understood that this is substantially below the price offered by a number of City financial institutions, and put together by Hill Samuel, Illingworth's merchant bankers, in August. Mrs Mason failed to accept the offer by mid-September and it was withdrawn.

In court yesterday, it was stated the deal meant Mrs Mason would not be going ahead with plans to oust the Illingworth executives and the composition of the board would be up to the new shareholders who had his own ideas.



Robots reproduce

Robots are making robots at this new factory in Japan. Although the plant operates 24 hours a day, only two humans have to work the night shift.

Fanuc, a subsidiary of the Fujitsu electronics group, built the factory near Lake Yamana, 65 miles west of Tokyo, to manufacture industrial robots. The company has already produced 70,000 of the 100,000 industrial robots in use around the world.

Robots process and inspect parts, assemble them into new robots, and transport them to the warehouse. The total number of human employees is 60; about 1,000 would have been required without the use of robots.

EEC urges curb on public spending cuts

From Peter Norrison, Brussels, Oct 16
The British Government should be prepared to override its targets for a reduction of the public sector borrowing requirement in the coming financial year, the European Commission said today in its annual economic report.

Public finance plans in Britain should give greater priority to expanding special employment measures, reducing the employers' National Insurance surcharge or bringing forward worthwhile investment projects.

The Commission has echoed many of the points raised at this week's Conservative Party conference by Sir Ian Gilmour, who was dismissed by the Prime Minister for failing to support the Government's economic strategy.

It pointed to the danger of "overkill" when a country adopts budgetary action which reduces demand to a level which is weaker than the level of economic activity that in turn increases the budget deficit and leads to a round of restrictive government policies.

In the case of Britain, which has been the main example of a more serious recession after the second oil shock than after the first, the Commission said the causes were a combination of rigorous financial policies, with a preparedness to let the pound float outside the European Monetary System, and the failure of employers and trade unions to adapt their wage settlements to the financial stabilization policies introduced by the Government.

The Commission's generally gloomy assessment of Europe's economic prospects contains few crumbs of comfort for the United Kingdom.

The very modest recovery in prospect will be well below that of the EEC as a whole. Despite recent improvements in efficiency, Britain still suffered from relatively high levels of real wages, high unemployment, and low productivity. Productive investment was low and the production structure was not sufficiently competitive.

Financial authorities should keep a firm grip on public sector pay rises and there should be a big change in the composition of national income, with a reduced share going to labour and more to investment.

The Commission also said that Britain should strive for exchange rate stability to help combat inflation, and advocated putting more emphasis on the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System.

While the Commission's judgement of Britain's economic performance may be negative, its assessment of the position of the Community in relation to Japan and the United States is little better.

Japan and the United States have adjusted better to the monetary changes up to 1970s than Europe. Between 1974 and 1980 the United States increased total employment by 12 million while the increase in the EEC was a mere 118,000. Since 1976 Japan's economy has grown by 5.3 per cent a year.

Since early 1980, the number of registered unemployed in the EEC has grown by three million to over nine million at present, and although the business cycle is now turning for the better, the improved outlook and economic performance expected for next year will not reverse the trend of unemployment and absorb the increased supply of labour in Europe.

The Commission expects that the EEC's gross domestic product will grow by only 2 per cent in real terms next year.

News group reports losses since May

By Our Financial Staff
News International, Mr Rupert Murdoch's British publishing company which owns The Times, The Sunday Times, The Sun and the News of the World, has been making a loss since the beginning of May.

This has been caused by increased competition for The Sun, the loss of the Sunday magazine with the News of the World and the continuing losses at Times Newspapers, Mr Murdoch said in reporting the group's figures yesterday.

He added that in spite of the losses so far this year, the group would end the year with a profit albeit very much smaller.

News International has reported a pre-tax profit for the year to the end of June of £26.1m, compared with pre-tax profits for the six months to the end of June last year of £13.2m, and profits for the first half of the year of £20.4m. These are the first full year figures from News International after its capital reorganization and the offer by News Corporation, Mr Murdoch's Australian parent company, for the 50 per cent of the shares in public hands.

Turnover at News International in provincial newspapers and the Erie Benmore printing group, amounted to £23.4m compared with £114.1m in the six months of last year. The profit figure has been struck before an extraordinary surplus of £4.3m after tax and credits of £3.75m from the writing back of deferred tax.

A final dividend of 4.95p a share gross on the special dividend shares is being recommended. The shares closed at 85p, down 13p.

Pritchard expands in US

By Catherine Gunn
Pritchard Services, the industrial cleaning group, has expanded its American interests with the 22m acquisition of National Medical Consultants, a private company providing temporary nurses and health care services to hospitals and individuals.

The acquisition will increase Pritchard's share of the American hospital services market to 25 per cent, and puts it fifth among groups offering temporary nursing care in the United States. The deal should be completed by early December.

Mr Peter Pritchard, the chairman, said yesterday that this brings the group's recent rapid expansion to a halt. National Medical's annual turnover was \$300m (£164m), two-thirds of that in health care, he said, and United States interests will provide half the group's future annual pre-tax profit.

To pay for National Medical, 10.5 million Pritchard shares were placed with British institutions by Morgan Grenfell, which raised £14m and £7.6m has been borrowed in the United States.

Tin consumers reject proposed price rise

By Our Financial Staff
Tin consumers yesterday rejected a proposal from producers at the International Tin Council meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, that tin prices should be raised by 12.5 per cent. A second producer's proposal that prices should be increased by 10 per cent was also turned down.

The rejection leaves speculators, waiting to see whether today's council meeting will agree on a price increase sufficient to avoid potentially heavy losses on tin purchased at high prices.

Market sources in London estimate that £100m has been spent since mid-July on tin futures prices up by about 20 per cent. They are now above the council's buffer ceiling of \$34.57 (£27.2) a kilogramme. Three months tin closed on the London Metal Exchange last night at £2,353 a tonne, compared with £2,097.50 on July 17.

It is widely believed that tin consumers in London and one in New York have been acting on behalf of tin producers led by Malaysia.

Prices started rising after the producers and consumers failed to agree on a price increase in July. The consumers, some of whom are said to be annoyed at the subsequent price increase, yesterday would go no higher than the 4.5 per cent increase they rejected in July.

Industry sources calculate that an increase of at least 7 per cent is needed for producers to recover their money.

The producers are Australia, Bolivia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Thailand and Zaire. The 22 consumers at the meeting are led by the EEC, Japan, the Soviet Union and the United States.

Stock Markets

FT Index 463.4 down 9.3
FT 100 61.12 down 0.8
Total bargains 15,342
All share index 282.12 down 3.05

Sterling

\$1.8340 down 160 points
Index 87.4 down 0.9
New York: \$1.8360

Dollar

Index 108.4 up 1.0
DM 2.2380 up 173 pts

Gold

\$445.00 up 50 cents
New York: \$440.20

Money

3 mth sterling 16 1/16
3 mth Euro \$ 16 1/16
6 mth Euro \$ 16 1/16

Showdown at Hoover

Trade unions representing 9,000 Hoover workers in the United Kingdom last night said they would resist any plant closures or wage cuts "with all possible means".

This came after talks with management at a Heaton Hotel broke down after three and a half hours.

Hoover lost £6.1m in the first six months of this year, and has put a number of survival proposals to the staff.

It is threatening to close the Cambslang plant near Glasgow employing 2,000, or the factory at Perivale, West London, employing 1,500. Another alternative is to slim the workforce at both places or erect a custom-built factory elsewhere in the United Kingdom.

The company is also demanding that staff take a 10 per cent wage cut which it estimates would save the company £6m.

Former BL man builds stake in BL dealer

Suter Electrical, headed by a former BL man, has bought nearly 15 per cent of the loss-making Appleyard Group, the distributor of BL and Ford cars.

Mr David Abel (right) became chairman and executive director of Suter 10 months ago. Earlier this year Suter bought Prestcold from BL for £9m. The Appleyard stake was acquired in the market and other shareholders are believed to have been approached.

Mr Abel, who is 38, met Mr Ian Appleyard, the car group's chairman yesterday afternoon. He said the meeting was amicable but refused to say whether Suter would buy more shares or why the group had bought its initial stake.

Merger may boost Ulster search for oil and gas

The search for oil and gas off the Northern Ireland coast could be increased with the signing of a merger agreement in Belfast yesterday between two companies operating in Ohio.

Ohio Resources, mainly owned by Northern Ireland interests, signed an agreement under which it will acquire 72.5 per cent of the Columbus Oil and Gas and National Petroleum, its drilling and production subsidiary.

The two groups own mineral leases for more than 300,000 acres in Ohio and jointly own a gas-gathering pipeline system.

Ohio Resources was initially floated on the Vancouver stock exchange by the Northern Ireland investors led by Mr Gerard McQuillan, a building contractor from Newry, Co Down.

One immediate project will be the drilling of another 20 wells on property already owned by Ohio Resources.

Mr McQuillan said: "Now that oil and gas prospecting is under way in and around Northern Ireland we will be looking at opportunities here. Several possible projects are under examination."

Help urged for textiles

Textile producers last night urged the Government to act immediately to halt the decline of the industry in Britain.

Mr Russell Smith, president of the British Textile Confederation, who was addressing the annual dinner of the British Wool Confederation in Bradford, said: "Either the United Kingdom acts urgently to match the advantages enjoyed by our EEC competitors or the textile industry must suffer an increasing rate of decline."

Aid pledge for BMK carpets

Possible buyers of the BMK carpet group, Blackwood Morton of Kilmarnock, which has called in the receiver, are likely to receive state aid.

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, said: "The Scottish Office is ready to assist urgently in viable proposals for the company which would secure employment in the area."

ROLLEI CLOSES ITS SHUTTERS

Competition from Japan has closed the Rollei Camera Company in Britain and its factory at Wallingborough, Northamptonshire. The company will go into liquidation next month when creditors will be told debts approach £2m.

The world famous Rollei camera was once a must for every press photographer and is still a prized possession of many amateurs. Production is being continued in Germany.

West German insolventcies are likely to rise by 26 per cent to a record 14,500 cases in 1981 from 9,140 in 1980 with little hope for improvement seen for 1982, Creditreform.

Money supply up in US

United States money supply M-1B rose \$5,500m to a seasonally adjusted \$425,100m in the week ending October 7-M-1A money supply rose \$3,500m to \$362,100m.

United States banks' average net borrowed reserves rose \$67m to \$127m in the week ending October 14.

Industrial production in the United States declined a seasonally adjusted 0.8 per cent in September.

ICI is forming a joint company with Asahi Glass to build a factory near Tokyo to handle ICI's Fluon range of plastics.

RESTMOR GROUP

(Manufacturers of Baby Carriages and Nursery Furniture)

RESULTS		30th April 1981	30th April 1980
IN BRIEF			
(Historic Cost Basis)			
Turnover		£,000	£,000
		10,934	12,786
Profit before tax		1,202	1,552
Profit after tax		696	1,323
Dividend per share		5p	4p

In his statement the Chairman Mr I. M. Abram, reports that as anticipated the effects of inflation and the current recession has reduced sales and depressed margins.

It is not considered that there will be an improvement in the current year, but new products should strengthen the Company's position in the future.

Restmor Group Ltd., Restmor Way, Hackbridge, Surrey SM6 7AQ.

RG

Better service from the building societies. . . ?

In the past few months consumer finance has been turned on its head. Charges introduced by the banks for cashing personal cheques of their high street rivals has sounded the death knell of the most advanced and flexible consumer banking organisation in Europe, if not the world.

At the same time the building societies are losing out to the high street clearers in the home loan market — witness the Woolwich decision to scrap differential mortgage rates early this week. Will we now turn to the banks for mortgages, and to the building societies for current account facilities?

Building societies have, on and off, given thought to extending their range of services to customers, but never more seriously than at the moment, when the banks have pitched so aggressively for both mortgage business and small savers deposits.

John Fry, the general manager for marketing at Abbey National says: "We are now looking very carefully at a whole range of alternatives — the provision of cheque-books, cash cards, credit cards and the like."

At the moment Abbey National is advertising itself

The banks and building societies are in competition for both savings and home loans. Margaret Drummond and Adrienne Gleeson look at how this may affect customers.

under the headline "Want a current account that pays you interest?"

The thinking is that building societies may be able to compete not by offering a baffling array of higher interest term-share accounts, but by drawing customers' attention to the way they can use a building society as a bank — and obtain interest on their money.

Use of a building society account in this way is strictly limited: you can withdraw cash at will; you can obtain cheques made out to a third party; if the sums are large enough, you can get the building society branch to actually pay over such a cheque to a third party.

But John Fry thinks the day will dawn soon when building societies will be offering extra services to customers, possibly in return for a lower rate of interest than the traditional ordinary share rate.

"At the moment," he says, "we are giving customers too much interest for real current account money. A bank, for instance, pays them nothing. We may have to consider a structure where we offer something less for this in return for giving customers a real alternative to a current account at a bank."

This "real alternative" is unlikely to take the form of a thorough going system of cheques. "The banks would be required to put them through their clearance system and in the present state of competition between us, they are unlikely to view that kindly."

MD

... and more interest from the banks?

It is also about time — in fact more than time — that the British clearing banks started to pay interest on current accounts. With overnight money earning 15 per cent a year in the money markets it is absurd that anyone who leaves cash in his (or her) account should get no more for it than remission of his bank charges.

The customer who leaves the bare minimum required for free banking (£100-£200), and who then proceeds to use his account with enthusiasm will, of course, be winning all the way. But what of the one who leaves thousands in his account and hardly uses it at all?

He does not, of course. He would have to be mad to do so. Invested in an ordinary share account at a building society, £1,000 would at present rates bring him £97.50 a year tax paid (or almost £1.70 a week). It's small wonder that the building societies have made such inroads into the banks'

share of total deposits (building society deposits have increased by £32,000m to £50,000m over the past five years; bank deposits in the same period have only increased by £17,000m to £36,000m).

This, however, presents the banks with a problem. Not only do they need the deposits to sustain their business; they also have relied on the use of the current account money to subsidize the costs of their extremely expensive branch network, branch managers, and money transmission services.

With interest rates as high as they are at the moment they can get by with the odd few hundred million pounds of profit. But if interest rates fall, and they cannot get back the current account deposits, they are going to have to cut their costs and/or put up their charges.

In principle there is nothing wrong with the idea that the banks should charge enough to

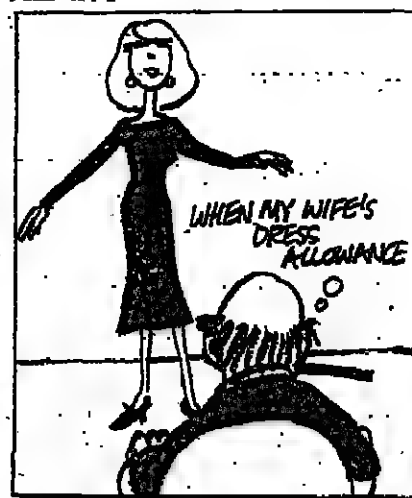
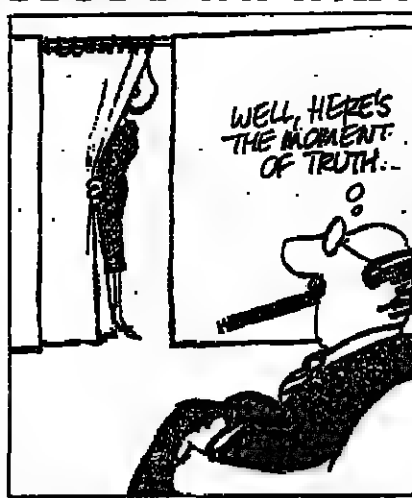
cover their costs, and much to recommend the idea that those who use their services most should pay most heavily for them. In practice, however, there is plenty wrong with what the banks are doing now: bumping up their charges is one obvious example. There is also the case of Barclays, charging other banks' customers for the honour of cashing their cheques. And there are also the cases identified in the article alongside.

Anyone subject to such increases has a good right to feel aggrieved that the bank gets the free use of his current account balance as well. In an attempt to recover their share of deposits, the banks have already started to pay more sensible returns on longer-term money: it is time they did the same on the current account.

At the moment they seem to be having it both ways: heads they win, and tails you lose.

AG

HOFF of HEYBRIDGE HEATH



Save the overdraft

It is about time that somebody set up a Society for the Preservation of the Overdraft. For the overdraft, though you may not yet have realised it, is an endangered species.

It is threatened by cost-cutting bankers, with one envious eye on the ease with which credit card loans are administered and another on the simplicity with which finance house loans are granted.

Listen to Mr Deryk Vander Weyer, deputy chairman of Barclay's Bank, no less: he told a galaxy of top European bankers at a congress in Berlin earlier this month that the "flexible but expensive overdraft system traditional to clearing banks in the United Kingdom will be increasingly irrelevant" from now on.

Historically, he said, the personal customer "would be interviewed by a mature bank manager who would make a subjective judgment based on expensive experience and supported by the costly acquisition of collateral security". (What? My bank manager has never asked me for security when I have been in to tell him that things will be tight for a month or two.) But, he went on, "the highly systemised credit scoring method

of lending is cheaper, easier and much more appropriate for 90 per cent of personal loan needs".

Credit scoring is the method which hire purchase and other credit companies use to determine whether you are credit-worthy. It will award you points on the information that you have disclosed on a form, according to how well (or badly) you fit its stereotype of the perfect borrower.

If your score is adequate you will get the credit that you want and, if it is not, you won't — and no amount of sweet reason or cold fury will change the credit company's mind.

The bank manager, by contrast, will make his decision on much more subjective grounds. He will take the facts into consideration, of course, but whether or not he decides to give you the money is largely determined by his view of your character as by his opinion of your financial standing. He is likely, in consequence, to take more risk in some cases and less risk in others.

But the implication of Mr Weyer's speech is that the end result — the percentage of bad debts — is not sufficiently

different to justify employing him in the first place.

Even if you, the consumer, do not have a soft spot for your bank manager, this ought to be a cause of concern. For one thing, overdrafts tend to be cheaper than personal loans. (After last week's half-point cut in base rates to 15.15 per cent, most customers will be paying between 20 and 21 per cent for their overdrafts, as against 22-23 per cent for personal loans.) For another, they are certainly more flexible.

You can borrow up to an overdraft limit or not, as the will takes you, and that facility is not available on any other form of credit, except a revolving loan (such as a credit card), which could cost you up to half as much again.

So the overdraft is a facility that is worth keeping even if the bankers — or at any rate the bankers' chiefs — would prefer to kill it off. Next time you ask your bank manager for one you should point out that the Society for the Preservation of the Overdraft is campaigning for his job as well. You might even get him to join.

AG

A charge on the unit trusts

It is not just the man in the street who is moaning about the banks' assault on services. The unit trusts are up in arms about a huge increase in charges for the dividend mandate facility, hands up who knows what that is. Since the summer, it appears, the banks have been charging 10p an item for distributing dividends to shareholders directly into their accounts.

A company could write one dividend cheque to each of the clearing banks, which would then pay the dividend to each customer. There was no charge — or only a fractional one — for this service until last June. But following the Office of Fair Trading's ruling on inter-

bank agreements (designed to prevent banks operating a cartel on charges), the 10p charge appeared.

Mostly this has resulted in company registrars (already always banks) paying each other and loading the charge on their corporate customers. But the unit trusts are looking askance at the suggestion that their management companies should cough up the money.

What does the Unit Trust Association think of the suggestion? "Not a lot," says Tony Smith of the UTA. "We are going to discuss this at a meeting next week."

Unit trusts have long been able, free of charge, to distribute dividends direct to

unitholder's accounts through the dividend mandate system. Now the banks are insisting on payment for the service. But who will pay the bill?

The banks are shy of charging their own customers to whom the dividends are distributed.

It cannot be denied, however, that the facility does save dividend distributors postage and paperwork. What irritates the customers so much, corporate and personal alike, is that the old rather gentlemanly and certainly effective banking system is becoming rougher, tougher and more expensive, but not any more efficient and flexible.

MD

Taxation Treating staff to lunch at the local restaurant

Not many companies realise they can provide lower paid employees (roughly anyone earning less than £8,500 a year) with subsidised, or free food at a restaurant without this being taxed as a perk. Or that the managers, directors or anyone earning more than £8,500 a year have to partake of their subsidised lunches on the premises if they want to escape the taxman.

This has emerged following a letter to the Inland Revenue last month asking if employers without canteen facilities might be able to provide this attractive benefit to the workforce by using restaurant facilities instead. Small firms with no canteen facilities are at a distinct

disadvantage in the labour market when compared with larger organisations, which can provide free or highly subsidised meals for all levels of staff in their canteen.

In the letter it was suggested that small employers could reserve tables in a local restaurant where they and the staff could eat at the company's expense from the fixed price menu. The company would settle the bill on a weekly or monthly basis according to how much had been consumed.

Employees would not be provided with vouchers for meals or anything resembling credit cards — otherwise the benefits would certainly be taxable. In the letter, it was

explained how financial control would be maintained without falling foul of either the voucher or credit card legislation.

Back came the answer from the Revenue — yes, such meals would not be taxable for lower paid employees (basically those earning under £8,500 a year). This is because the benefit cannot be turned into money or money's worth. "Provided that the contract for the supply of meals (which are non-transferable) is made directly between the company and the restaurant and that no vouchers or company credit cards are involved."

However, any directors or higher paid employees who

join the staff for a free lunch in the restaurant would be taxable on the benefit — according to Inland Revenue practice. So a restaurant cannot be a canteen for hamper or caviar.

This practice is based on a statement made in the House of Commons as recently as May 18, 1949. "... exemption which the law gives for meals given where lunches on a reasonable scale are provided for directors and high officials on the business premises if lunches are provided for the staff generally whether on the premises or elsewhere".

So, if you want to give higher paid employees free

meals, then the following conditions seem to apply:

• They must be on a reasonable scale (no Fortnum's hampers or caviar).

• They must be on the business premises of the employer, although we believe not necessarily in a room specially reserved for the purpose.

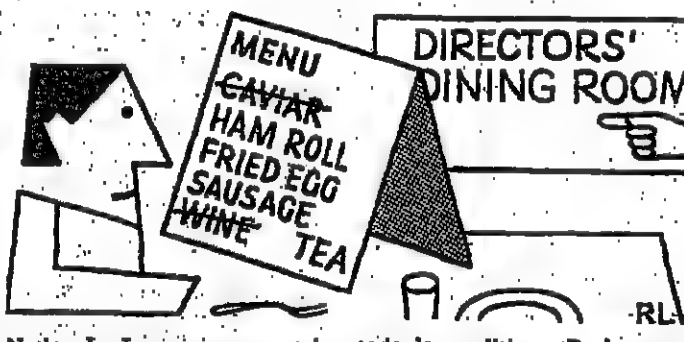
The staff can eat separately or in restaurants or even merely receive 15p lunchmen vouchers.

Unlike entertaining expenses, meals provided for employees in the way proposed were, in the Revenue's view

allowable expenses for the company.

On a practical level, therefore, employers who search for tax efficient ways of paying staff, should consider setting up restaurant schemes for their lower paid employees. Thousands of London commuting employees are going to be affected by the abolition of the season ticket perk on April 5, 1982: this could be a worthwhile replacement.

Directors and higher paid employees, meanwhile, should explore the take away meal market. Tax free fringe benefits are very worthwhile, so long as it costs over £1 in basic rate tax and total



National Insurance contributions in order to put £1 cash into an employee's pocket.

In policy terms, one has to wonder whether the difference in treatment between higher and lower paid employees, particularly in this respect, is still appropriate in

today's conditions. Perhaps, a practice based on a statement in the House of Commons more than 32 years ago needs updating.

Danby Bloch and Raymond Godfrey

Mortgages Woolwich leads the way on larger loans

This week has witnessed a revolution in building society thinking as it prepares to take on the competition in the home loan market.

The recent round of interest rate rises has brought into focus the battle which is being fought between the building societies and the banks to lend you and me money.

Last summer the banks launched an offensive on larger loan interest rates which left the building societies reeling. As one of Britain's big five societies, the Woolwich Equitable, has finally responded by scrapping its differential rate for loans under £37,500.

Within days similar moves were announced by the Bradford-based Provincial and the

Brighton-based Alliance. Although neither of these smaller societies have gone all the way with the Woolwich.

So while the banks and societies fight it out, the customer looking for the larger loan can take his pick. Already the Woolwich has brought its interest rate structure in line with that of

From Monday, investors will be able to hold up to £5,000 worth of index-linked National Savings certificates (Granny bonds). The present limit is £3,000.

the banks. On paper at least the London based society is matching the principal high street banks with an across

the-board 15 per cent interest rate. The Midland has restructured its home loans rate, severing its links with base rate.

A £25,000 loan from the Woolwich will now cost £322.51 compared with £351.51 a month gross under its old interest rate structure. Because banks calculate interest rates differently, the same loan from the Midland now will cost you £315.39 a far cry from the £372.21 it was charging at 18 per cent interest.

At the same time the Provincial has also had change of heart about rates. It has not scrapped differential rates entirely; instead it loads mortgages of over £20,000 by ½ per cent and over £35,000

the rate increases to 16 per cent, and above £50,000 the rate rises to 16½ per cent.

However, the Provincial is only applying this structure to new mortgages. Existing borrowers must continue paying a higher rate for their loans.

It says they cannot afford to scrap differential rates completely and it is applying the basic 15 per cent rate-up to £20,000 to help first time buyers. Even for larger loans the society now believes it can compete successfully with the banks.

The Alliance, rather than abolish differential rates has flattened the spread of its punitive charges for larger loans. Unlike the Provincial, its threshold for incurring a higher interest rate is £15,000. Loans up to and including that figure will be charged the basic 15 per cent, over £15,000 and up to £25,000 mortgages will carry 15½ per cent rates.

Higher mortgages will be charged interest at 16 per cent with no extra penalty whatever the size of the loan. Unlike the Woolwich it has a £37,500 threshold, above which interest rates are negotiable.

If you are looking for a mortgage then it is worth shopping around between building societies and banks to see who is offering the best deal.

Baron Phillips

MONTHLY MORTGAGE REPAYMENTS				
25-year term				
Size of mortgage	Home lending rate %	£15,000	£20,000	£25,000
Midland	(15)	£189.24	£252.31	£315.39
Barclays	(15½)	£196.00	£261.00	£326.00
Lloyds	(15)	£189.09	£253.20	£316.50
National Westminster	(15)	£183.38	£257.84	£322.30
Williams & Glyn's	(15)	£189.23	£252.30	£316.38
Building society	(15)	£193.50	£265.80	£341.75
Woolwich	(15)	£183.51	£258.01	£322.81
Provincial	(15)	£193.30	£258	£332
Alliance	(15)	£199.20	£265.60	£332

*15½%, +16%.

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EDITED BY MARGARET DRUMMOND

FINANCIAL NEWS

Insurance

Problem of the wayward golf-ball

Sir Harry Secombe and the woman, spectators, he felt with that well-publicized mis-hit golf ball could both tell you of one of the hazards of the ancient game. For golf, and other peaceful pastimes, carry risks which are not immediately apparent and which can prove costly both to player and spectator alike. But fortunately they can be insured against.

Professional sportsmen earn enough to take out expensive private insurance or their employers carry the liability. But that liability seldom extends to the village greens where the millions of citizens who take part in amateur golf, tennis, cricket, badminton, squash, bowls or angling.

The most complete way is to take advantage of composite policies which offer more than legal liability insurance. There is a specific one for the above sports devised by Cornhill and its tariff acts as a general guideline.

There are three areas of concern to the sportsman — injury to himself, injury to her or himself, and loss of, or damage to, property belonging to either.

For an annual premium of £10 for a sportsman (with a sportsman's wife) and £13.75 premium for each of the other named sports) your sportsman can be protected against all three. Even assuming a 13-week season, that comes to only 77p a week.

In the unlikely event of a cricket ball hitting off a double-decker bus, or seriously injuring a passer-by, the legal liability carries an indemnity limit of £500,000. You are covered up to that level of damages — provided, of course, that it was an accident.

As great a worry is the effect of injury to the player himself. Accidents rarely while involved in or playing your favourite pastime are compensated as follows:

Death, loss of sight in one or more eyes and permanent loss of limb carry £4,000 compensation each, with death cover limited to £500 for anyone under 18. More likely, it is to be hoped, is the kind of accident which puts the sportsman off work for a time.

For up to 104 weeks he can get £20 a week, doubled for any time spent in hospital.

There is the usual list of exceptions to this compensation scale and there is an age bar of 70 in all cases.

Personal injury is not nearly as common as the theft of property left in the dressing room or loss of, or damage to sporting equipment.

Crack the equipment first, which for fishing, say, can be very expensive. Loss or damage through any cause is covered up to £500, with the insurer paying the first £10 or £20, depending on where he lives, should the property be stolen.

There is one exception the sportsman should beware of — breakage. Should the handle of his bat come away in his hand while at the press, for instance, there will be no pay-out.

For dressing room thefts effects will be covered up to £250, with the insurer paying the first £5. But the insurers will not pay out on money or jewelry.

There are other ways of achieving the same cover as parts of the specialist policy, but to protect yourself fully you would need three policies: Loss or damage to your equipment may come under your home contents policy, if you have one, but you should look carefully at any exclusions in your policy. You can take out a personal or a family health insurance, which will sometimes cover your leisure activities, provided that they are not considered too hazardous.

For rock climbing or damage to their property, a personal liability insurance policy should cover you. These policies usually specify that you, your spouse or your family are at the time involved in private, personal activities, and these often exclude anything to do with horses, as well as the more obvious motor sports.

Readers whose leisure activities are more demanding, such as rock climbing, hang-gliding or free-fall parachuting can usually find cover through a broker and here it pays to shop around.

Roger Beard

I took out a mortgage in November, 1978, with one of the smaller London building societies. When I came to redeem it on selling my house recently I was sent a redemption notice requesting three months additional interest. On inquiring I was told that this was standard practice as I was redeeming within five years of taking out the loan. I asked for the matter to be considered by the society's board, but they said that they were bound to charge it under their rules. A colleague tells me that this is illegal as it is regarded as a penalty. Could I please have your advice, as the amount involved is more than £400 (DF, London W14).

Your building society rule book sets out the conditions upon which you as borrower can redeem your loan prematurely. You would also have been given a copy and should have read them when you took out the loan.

The Building Societies Association has recommended that building societies should not charge redemption interest and most building societies do not now do so.

Your society is apparently one of the few remaining exceptions. Where a society still insists on charging redemption interest it should not charge it where more than five years have elapsed since the loan was taken out. Again, if the borrower is purchasing another house with a loan from the same society, no redemption interest should be charged.

Recently the company for which I work has been undergoing certain structural changes, which have included offering completely new contracts to all middle managers and above. I am concerned because I believe that the offer which has been made to me constitutes one which I have to refuse. The question which I would like to put to you is — what is the difference between an employee being made redundant and an employee resigning of his or her own volition?

The main points concerning the new contract offer are:

1. there is a slight change in the job title;

2. the job contract includes all my past responsibilities plus some additional ones (although this is not spelt out in any way on the contract);

3. there is a 7 per cent pay rise;

4. the new contract is offered without a car being included, although the old job included one (which was leased). The only compensation brought to an end is the offer of an interest-free loan to purchase my own car;

5. the new job is offered with one week's holiday less than the old job;

6. the new job specifies that overtime will not be paid.

Bridge Capital 97.3 143.7
Ulster Growth 97.2 105.6
Ulster Capital 96.6 122.9
HK UK Market Leaders 95.7

London Wall Cap Growth 94.4 156.7
G.T. Capital 94.3 113.5
Arbuthnot Growth 93.8 113.5
HK Accumulation 93.8 113.5

Chinacorp Growth 93.1 126.6
Linda Wall/Special 93.1 126.6
Midland Drayton Cap 93.1 126.6

Midland Drayton Cap 93.1 126.6
G.T. Vanguard Growth 92.7 117.1
Target Growth 92.7 117.1

British Pro 92.2 145.6
HK Growth 91.7 116.7
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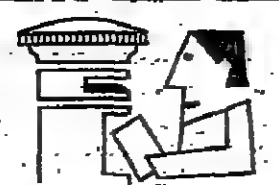
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Readers' Forum

This specialist readers' service has been compiled with the help of Ronald Irving, John Drummond and Tony Foreman

Cost of paying off a mortgage

whereas in my present job I am eligible for overtime although I have never claimed it. (A. P. C., Birmingham)

APC Birmingham raises a variety of issues which it is not practicable to deal with in the course of a brief reply.

The main point seems to be concerned with what is known as "constructive dismissal". This may be put in non-legal terms by saying you do not have to go so far as sacking someone to dismiss him. You only need make his life, while at work, so miserable that he has no alternative but to leave.

The definition has been laid down in the case of *Western Excavations (EC) Ltd v Sharp* in 1978. Summarizing their effect the items to consider are:

(a) were the employers in breach of the terms of the contract of employment?

(b) was the breach so serious that the employee was entitled to leave immediately (even if he leaves later), treating the contract of employment as brought to an end by the employer?

The notion of constructive dismissal is rather similar to that of constructive desertion. For example, a wife refuses to continue looking after the husband's needs (food, bed,

laundry, etc.) — driving him out of their home, although he is the one to leave.

The items set out under point 1 seem to be of little significance, unless the job title change amounts to a lowering of status. Point 3 is simply a "breach" of the employee's obligations. The other items (2, 4, 5 and 6) are possible breaches, that is, they could constitute grounds for arguing that the employee was constructively dismissed.

A word of caution, however. If the "new" contracts have been offered to all middle managers and above, who have found them acceptable (apart from APC), it will be difficult to succeed in a claim. APC will be regarded on the basis that "they are all out of step except our Johnnie".

In the present economic climate, with business suffering from the recession, and there are more than three million unemployed, some adjustments may be necessary for businesses and employees to survive financially.

Last summer I ordered a new (foreign) car. The dealer undertook to take my used car in part exchange at a "price to be agreed". I was asked for and paid £100 "deposit". When, four months later, the new car was ready for delivery, an offer was made for my 3½-year-old Rover P5B, which was unreasonably low and I declined to go ahead with the deal. The dealer refused to return my deposit. The United Kingdom Consumer Credit Association (UKCCA) sympathized with this predicament but has been unable to persuade the dealer to refund my money, and now the Motor Agents Association is dissenting over the offer price. Informal advice from a solicitor friend indicates that legally I am in the right but that the cost of legal proceedings would not be justified. Is the dealer entitled to the deposit if I refuse to go ahead with it? (AJW, London SW1)

You do not state the retail price of the new car but it was clearly reduced by "an amount to be agreed" for your old one.

It is clear, therefore, that the sale and purchase are interdependent, that is, it is a single transaction. As you have been unable to agree between you the part-exchange value to be allowed on your existing vehicle, the entire transaction is void.

Consequently, you are entitled to the return of your deposit. It was merely to show good faith on your part. If the dealer complains he now has a car which he cannot sell. This is his own fault for not fixing the part-exchange value in advance.

Stock markets

BL vote and weak pound shake confidence

Gloomy news and rumours again played havoc with the market yesterday as share prices took another nosedive.

This time it was the result of the BL workers' vote to strike in the face of threats of closure from Sir Michael Edwards and another poor performance by the pound. It was enough to bring the bears out in force, confident that the market's only direction next week will be downwards.

As a result, jobbers were again forced to go on the defensive, marking prices sharply lower. All hopes of a rally ahead of the weekend as investors squared up their books quickly faded. Rumours that Russia had invaded Poland, and Mrs Thatcher's speech at the Tory Party conference at Blackpool also did little for sentiment.

The FT index opened 2.8 lower at 10 am and drifted throughout the day, extending its loss at the close by 9.8 at 4.43 — a fall on the account so far of 34.8. Dealers remained openly sceptical about the prospect of a rally next week in the face of Monday's US money supply figures and Tuesday's UK trade figures — both expected to make gloomy reading.

The weaker pound and higher bill rates in the money markets laid the foundations for a spare of persistent selling in the gilt market. The new tap Exchequer 15 per cent 1997 slipped lower, closing at 244½ p, paid, or 5½ p above the offer price. In loans, falls were contained to 3½ p in shorts losses of up to 11 were reported.

Leading industrialists clearly elected the dealer to the role of the market, with prices continuing to be marked lower in an attempt to stave off the sellers. JCI fell 4p to 256p, Becton 4p to 188p, Glaxo 6p to 374p, Unilever 5p to 553p, Blue Circle 4p to 452p, BOC International 3p to 132p and P & O Dfd 2p to 95p. Hawker Siddeley shed another 6p at 262½ ahead of half-year figures on Wednesday, making a fall of 38p so far this week.

The threat of a permanent shutdown of BL sent a shudder through much of the engineering and automotive industries. Lucas Industries fell 11p to 16p.

It was time to take profits in KCA International yesterday as a line of 500,000 shares went through the market at 130p. Another line of 150,000 was still looking for a home last night and may still be doing the rounds on Monday. The price closed 7p lower at 132p.

Elsewhere, in motors Calfans rose 8p to 144p amid suggestions that Heron Motor was about to bid, and Appleby Group rose 3p to 68p as Mr David Appleby's Suter Electrical bought a 15 per cent stake. Shares of Suter Dfd rose 6p to 46p and the ordinary closed unchanged at 54p.

Newspapers that Pamela Mitton had agreed to sell her controlling stake in Wiltshire Morris clipped 11p from 19p, as David Hume Securities' bid added 8p to 35p. The Government's decision not to sell off the gas show-

rooms to private enterprise produced 4p boost for Vaux at 56p and a 3p rise for United Gas at 64p.

Details of its £20m United States acquisition clipped 4p from Pritchard Services, which had brokers Rowe & Pitman place 10m shares at 135p with various institutions to help pay for the deal.

Rearranged terms from Hamilton Trust, down 2p at 280p, left Berec 3p higher at 107p and now values the offer at 116p a share. But R. P. Martin slipped 10p to 260p after returning recently from suspension with terms for a merger with the German group Bierbaum. Speculative buying helped Old Swan Hotels 6p to 75p, Boustead 8p to 138p and Feeder 3p to 36p.

Trading losses were responsible for a 5p fall in British Syphon at 23p, a 4p fall in Executive Clothes at 18p and a similar loss in Forward Technology at 36p. A warning on trading losses wiped 13p from News International at 85p.

Talk of new industrial development in China added £1 to China 5 per cent at £17, £3 to China 5 per cent 1913 at £14, Equity turnover on October 15 was £87.36m, a 10.08 per cent gain. Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Global Nat Resources, ICI, Plessey, P & O, Dfd, GEC Ocean Transport and Thomas Tilling.

Traded options: Total contracts amounted to 1,060 of which BP attracted 251 in calls and 22 puts.

Traditional options saw calls in Tube Inv on 11p, RP Martin on 25p and Woodside on 81p.

Latest results

Company Sales Profits Earnings Dividend Pay date Year's total

Amber Day (F) 40,021(30.19) 0.28(0.64) 4.66(1.24) — (1.76) — 0.9(2.24)

Arcolecric (F) 1,732(237) 0.013(0.14) 0.3(0.9) — (0.23) — (0.23)

Erskine House (F) 15,811(1.5) 0.1(0.18) 0.4(1.24) — (0.18) — (0.18)

Executive Clothes (I) 1,561(1.07) 0.4(1.086) 10.04(4.5) — (0.73) — (1.63)

Forward Tech (J) 18,912(23.3) 0.37(1.12) 2.1(4.5) 3.3(3.3) — (2.61) — (2.61)

R. Goodwin (F) 6,501(1) 0.28(0.25) 2.03(1.74) 0.5(0.3) — 23 11 0.5(0.2)

Stalder & Suter (I) 2,459(2.24) 0.29(0.099) 3.2(1.74) 3.4(2.4) — 6.3(2.44) — (2.44)

United Gas (F) 1,411(10.07) 1.41(1.55) 1.21(2.31) 1.21(2.31) — 4 12 — (2.38)

U.U. Teriles (F) 4,171(5.47) 0.075(0.15) 1.4(3.3) — (1.58) — (1.58)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pension share. Elsewhere, in Business News dividends are shown gross. To establish a gross multiple the net dividend by 1.425. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. * Loss; † For six months; ‡ Adjusted for scrip issue.

Accounting for leased equipment

By Our Financial Staff

although given the six years that ED29 has been in preparation the suggestions are not that novel.

On the treatment of financial leasing, the draft suggests that the open for public discussion proposal, will treat the asset in a similar way to an asset which is being financed by a hire purchase contract.

In this way, off-balance-sheet finance, it has been called, will be brought into the open and on to the balance sheet — thus enabling readers and analysts to obtain a proper appreciation of return on capital employed, and of the gearing of the enterprise, a committee statement said.

The chairman of the committee, Mr Tom Watts and the head of the leading working party is Mr Paul Rutemman. Published with the exposure draft are guidance notes to assist companies to comply with the standards.

Comments on the exposure draft are called for by next March 31. It is considered

Amber Day tumbles into loss

By Margaret Pagano

Amber Day blames its plunge into the red to May 1980 as the costs of switching production to meet changes in fashion trends.

The group, part clothing manufacturer and retailer to stores and mail order houses, lost £290,000, compared with the previous year's pre-tax profits of £643,000. Sales increased by 33 per cent to £40m.

The final dividend has been passed, leaving the total payment at 12p gross for the year against 40p gross. This saw the share's dip 4p to 12p, the low for the year. Attributable losses are £789,000 against profits of £617,000.

Mr Ronald Metzger, chairman, says the disappointing results reflect the tough trading conditions, but were caused particularly by the heavy losses in the outdoor manufacturing division and ladies' wear retail concerns.

Losses in both divisions were far deeper than forecast, because of the manufacturing problems and costs in switching to more casual fashion. This has now been achieved, he said, but losses are again expected in the ladies' wear division.

The number of ladies retail outlets has been cut from 25 shops to 10, which has released finance on the sale of properties. But the 30 menswear shops are trading profitably.

Redundancy and closure costs of £280,000 cover some 220 redundancies over the year and concentration at Amber's main factories. But the group has, since the year end, employed another 60 people.

Results include profits of £665,000 from Roskill Holdings, the direct selling group, which Amber and a private company, Lawsons, bought earlier in the year. This is expected to make £800,000 this year.

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Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank 15 1/2%

Barclays 15 1/2%
BCCI 16%
Consolidated Crds 16%
C. Hoare & Co 15 1/2%
Lloyds Bank 15 1/2%
Midland Bank 15 1/2%
Nat Westminster 15 1/2%
TSB 15%
Williams and Glyn's 15 1/2%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 or more
† 12 month deposit on sums of £50,000 or more

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited
27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81 High Low Company Price Chg % Yld % Actual % Fully Paid

114 100 ADI Hides 10% CULS 110 — 10.0 9.1 — 15.4

76 39 Airsprung Group 70 — 4.7 6.7 11.1 15.4

52 21 Arranage & Rhodes 44 — 4.3 9.8 3.7 8.3

200 924 Bardon Mill 193 — 9.7 5.0 9.4 11.1

104 88 Deborah Services 97 — 5.5 5.7 4.8 9.1

126 88 Frank Forsell 115 — 6.4 5.6 10.4 25.0

110 39 Frederick Parker 60 — 1.7 28 26.1 —

102 93 GPC 96 — 7.3 7.6 6.9 10.4

113 59 Jackson Group 95 — 1.0 7.4 3.0 6.7

130 103 James Burroughs 108 — 8.7 8.1 7.9 9.9

334 244 Robert Jenkins 285 — 31.3 11.0 10.0 8.6

59 50 Scruttons "A" 53 — 5.3 10.0 4.2 7.1

224 187 Torvald Limited suspended 13 — 15.1 8.1 7.2 12.4

98 38 Twinklax Ord 13 1/2 — — — — —

98 38 Twinklax 15% ULS 76 — 1.0 15.0 19.7 —

56 34 Unilever Holdings 94 — 1.0 8.8 6.1 10.3

103 81 Walter Alexander 84 — 6.4 7.6 5.5 8.8

263 181 W. S. Yeates 225 — 13.1 5.8 4.3 8.7

114 100 ADI Hides 10% CULS 110 — 10.0 9.1 — 15.4

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104 88 Deborah Services 97 — 5.5 5.7 4.8 9.1

126 88 Frank Forsell 115 — 6.4 5.6 10.4 25.0

110 39 Frederick Parker 60 — 1.7 28 26.1 —

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

date of return	
Dec 16	136
Nov 27	2 prom-1

RIGHTS ISSUES
 BP (75% partly paid)
 Finance Kinseip 25p Ord (1827)

issue price in parentheses: * Ex dividend
 issued by tender: † 1st paid, ‡ 2nd paid, § 3rd paid
 fully paid, ¶ 440 paid, † 250 paid, ‡ 230 paid, § 225 paid

Football

The princes of Wales are on the point of seizing English throne

By Stuart Jones

Football Correspondent

Wales may have bid farewell to their World Cup chances but today their pride may be restored by Swansea City, who may overtake Ipswich Town and become the first club from the Principality to lead the English championship since Cardiff City did so 57 years ago.

Six of the side that drew against Iceland last Wednesday will travel to Stoke City but Swansea's two Yugoslavs, Rajkovic and Hadziazic, may not, in which case either Stanley, bought from Everton last month, or Marusik, aged 20, will make his first appearance.

Ipswich, who threw away a two-goal lead over Southampton and then beat the lowly Wolverhampton Wanderers by an only goal, have yet to find last season's form. Although they are unchanged, they visit an Everton who are unbeaten at home this season and held West Ham United at Upton Park last Saturday. Thomas, absent for Wales in midweek, has recovered.

Tottenham Hotspur and West Ham, the only other sides which reach the peak, are both a long way from home today. Spurs travel to Sunderland without Villa, who is replaced by Hazard and then beat the lowly Wolverhampton Wanderers by an only goal, have yet to find last season's form. Although they are unchanged, they visit an Everton who are unbeaten at home this season and held West Ham United at Upton Park last Saturday. Thomas, absent for Wales in midweek, has recovered.

West Ham, one of the few sides who have been untroubled by injury, are unchanged again. Aston Villa, though, cannot put out the same side twice. Swain misses only his third out of 136 games and he may be joined in the audience by under Breman and Withe. West Ham, last defeated 27 games ago, have conceded four goals on each of their last three visits to Villa Park.

Two internationals profited from their outings in midweek by re-

gaining their club positions. Hansen proved his fitness for Scotland in Belfast and is recalled in Liverpool's defence against Brighton: Lawrenson at £200,000, is an expensive substitute. Case faces his former colleagues for the first time and Brighton can also call on Grealish, who was not available for the Republic of Ireland's victory over France.

Nicholl performed admirably for Northern Ireland in Belfast and has spent his season at Charlton against Notts County. Channon, Holmes and Moran have appointments with the trainer before the game but Williams' complex has somewhat so does Chiedozie for Notts County.

Caton feels he has nothing to prove at Highbury even though he knows that Arsenal have made three successful bids for him. "I just want to show them that their valuation was a good one. It's flattering to know how highly they assess me," he said yesterday. Young, another figure involved in the market for central defenders, is out with an infected toe and Whyte, who is black, makes his bow. Rick returns but McDermott awaits news on Harewood to hear his own.

McIlroy, injured on Wednesday, failed to assist so Coppell gains an instant reprieve against Birmingham City. Birtles, whom he replaced in the first division, has made a full recovery and Macari begins his return from an ankle injury among the reserves.

Leeds United, whose overtures to Andy Gray struck a discordant note last night, introduce a new line-up. They are, however, unchanged. Nottingham Forest, to their defence and move Cherry to full back for a long time against Birmingham Albion, a contest that is sunk in the depths of the first division. West Brom, Brown, who spent the summer in the United States, and retain Batson in spite of his request for a transfer during the week.



Proving his worth, Caton is flattered to be so highly valued and means to show Highbury how right they were.

England's sorry parting shot

From Gerry Harrison

Sydney, Oct 16

England's parting gesture from the world youth championships here looks like lowering the country's international standing again. After their play-off for third and fourth place in Adelaide tomorrow the team will return to return to Sydney for the final and farewell presentations before flying home on Monday.

Instead, because the Football Association's official pressure from the clubs to get their players home as soon as possible, they have decided to return to Adelaide on Sunday morning at considerable expense — as much as \$223,000 of their own money — according to one Australian Football official.

The locals, and FIFA, regard this departure much like a guest leaving a dinner party before the main course for a bag of chips. There will be resistance to England's efforts to recoup that unnecessary cost. Yet Qatar is such a pity that they can not finish off a difficult trip correctly. The players have worked very hard and have been impec-

cably behaved off the field. John Cartwright, the manager, has performed wonders in creating a useful team from his hand-picked collection of youngsters. With better finishing against Qatar, Sunday's final could have been a surprise. England's every move is monitored.

Sunday's final in Sydney has an unlikely look about it. Qatar, the product of Persian Gulf oil wealth and Brazilian coaching, are the underdogs. West Germany, who won the 1981 European youth championships, are the favourites. It is unlikely that the well-drilled Germans will cause Qatar any trouble in the offside trap as England or indeed, miss so many chances. Yet Qatar are, well, organised and thorough, enjoying themselves.

White gloves, brave saves

By a Special Correspondent

Leicester City 1, Chelsea 1

Like their cheerleader, who had problems scanning "When the yellow goalkeepers found difficulty at first in putting their gloves together last night at Leicester City, Chelsea 1, Leicester City 1.

The white gloves of Borota soon flickered into action when he charged from his area to kick away a long ball from Bobby Lee for Young. By quarter time Borota had half a dozen saves behind him. His opposite number, Leicester's 12 player in the field, was by contrast virtually untested when Chelsea scored first after 27 minutes.

Leicester and Bolton combined in space on the right. Fillyer collected, interposed with Lee and shot past the uncovered Wallington. Leicester were behind for but four minutes and their equalizer also, when it came, was due to Lee for Young. By quarter time Borota had half a dozen saves behind him. His opposite number, Leicester's 12 player in the field, was by contrast virtually untested when Chelsea scored first after 27 minutes.

Yesterday's results

Second division

Leicester 1, Chelsea 1

Leicester 1, Chelsea 1

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Cricket

An Indian shadow falls over England

By Peter West

Rugby Correspondent

England are still hoping that their tour of India, starting next month, will go ahead as planned despite reports of an Indian ban on two of their party, Geoff Boycott and Geoff Cook, because of their South African connections.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) reported yesterday that the tour was "virtually off" because the sporting links of Boycott and Cook with South Africa were unacceptable to the Indian Government.

The United News of India (UNI) quoted "informed sources" as saying that the tour would not be dropped unless the two were dropped.

Donald Carr, secretary of the Test and County Cricket Board, said last night that he had heard nothing official from the Indian Cricket Council and that he still hoped that the tour would go ahead.

There have been reports that the Indian Government have been looking at the situation more closely since the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne earlier this month. The Indian Cricket Council have been making inquiries on both our behalfs and we are in contact only this morning. The stories coming out certainly make the situation less promising than we believed."

A Cricket Office spokesman said that he had no information that a decision had been taken and S. K. Venkatesh, chairman of the tour, said he was still awaiting a Government decision.

India's ban on the 1977 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, which discouraged sporting links with South Africa because of that country's policy of apartheid, has been a regular visitors to South Africa for coaching and playing purposes.

Rugby Union

Australian forward strength can launch tour with exciting win

By Peter West

Rugby Correspondent

Four years since the war have been anticipated with such relief as the one that the Midlands division at Leicester's lovely afternoon safety was threatened by the withdrawal of Pearce, who did a sound job for England on the right hand side in Argentina.

The Midlands must hope that their forwards are good enough to encourage their own distinguished backs. The presence of the four England men—Davies, Dodds, Woodward and Rowe—adds another glamorous touch to the occasion. But I have a feeling that they may run short of good possession and that the players will get the wind in their sails and win with comfort and style.

They could then think of giving the rest of their party a game at Oxford. The Australian tour, their first contest at Iffley Road, against Richmond, have chosen Crowe, the Australian international, as their centre. They have also named five freshmen, these being the Bath and England wing, Wyatt, who certainly is no chicken, and Millership and Herod, both English schools internationals, at full back and prop; Barnes, who may be chosen for Wales B against the Welsh, and another prop, Abbott, who has played for Sydney.

In the northern group of the tour, the first of the tour, the touring party will play their first contest at Iffley Road, against Richmond, have chosen Crowe, the Australian international, as their centre. They have also named five freshmen, these being the Bath and England wing, Wyatt, who certainly is no chicken, and Millership and Herod, both English schools internationals, at full back and prop; Barnes, who may be chosen for Wales B against the Welsh, and another prop, Abbott, who has played for Sydney.

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Yachting

Playful whale blows a hole in Bubblegum

From Barry Pickhall

Cape Town, Oct 16

The 43-foot Bubblegum, the world's largest inflatable, was blown round the World Race, limped into Cape Town at 13.10 local time today to take eight places on the top grade.

Half way through this 'first leg' of the race, the Scottish yacht, skippered by Ian McGowan-Fyfe, was blown round the World Race, limped into Cape Town at 13.10 local time today to take eight places on the top grade.

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Rugby League

John Player draw cruel to little clubs

By Keith Macklin

The big battalions are favoured by a great asset in the John Player Trophy, and second division clubs must feel aggrieved at the way the lack of the draw has set back at the close of the season. Only four fixtures have second division clubs paired against each other. The rest must rely on playing off if they are to survive.

Battle commenced last night when Bramley made the long trip to Wigan. This afternoon Huddersfield entertained Widnes with little hope of advancement, while Fulham, continuing their hard work, took the top grade by travelling to Warrington. The remainder of the season will be played tomorrow.

Warrington introduce two new first team faces for the game with Fulham. They welcome back the boy who has been away from Fulham, who was signed from Barrow for just over £7,000. His experience and leadership should be a great asset to the club. Only four fixtures have second division clubs paired against each other. The rest must rely on playing off if they are to survive.

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Rugby Union

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Four years since the war have been anticipated with such relief as the one that the Midlands division at Leicester's lovely afternoon safety was threatened by the withdrawal of Pearce, who did a sound job for England on the right hand side in Argentina.

The Midlands must hope that their forwards are good enough to encourage their own distinguished backs. The presence of the four England men—Davies, Dodds, Woodward and Rowe—adds another glamorous touch to the occasion. But I have a feeling that they may run short of good possession and that the players will get the wind in their sails and win with comfort and style.

They could then think of giving the rest of their party a game at Oxford. The Australian tour, their first contest at Iffley Road, against Richmond, have chosen Crowe, the Australian international, as their centre. They have also named five freshmen, these being the Bath and England wing, Wyatt, who certainly is no chicken, and Millership and Herod, both English schools internationals, at full back and prop; Barnes, who may be chosen for Wales B against the Welsh, and another prop, Abbott, who has played for Sydney.

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Yachting

Playful whale blows a hole in Bubblegum

From Barry Pickhall

Cape Town, Oct 16

The 43-foot Bubblegum, the world's largest inflatable, was blown round the World Race, limped into Cape Town at 13.10 local time today to take eight places on the top grade.

Half way through this 'first leg' of the race, the Scottish yacht, skippered by Ian McGowan-Fyfe, was blown round the World Race, limped into Cape Town at 13.10 local time today to take eight places on the top grade.

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Rugby League

John Player draw cruel to little clubs

By Keith Macklin

The big battalions are favoured by a great asset in the John Player Trophy, and second division clubs must feel aggrieved at the way the lack of the draw has set back at the close of the season. Only four fixtures have second division clubs paired against each other. The rest must rely on playing off if they are to survive.

Battle commenced last night when Bramley made the long trip to Wigan. This afternoon Huddersfield entertained Widnes with little hope of advancement, while Fulham, continuing their hard work, took the top grade by travelling to Warrington. The remainder of the season will be played tomorrow.

Warrington introduce two new first team faces for the game with Fulham. They welcome back the boy who has been away from Fulham, who was signed from Barrow for just over £7,000. His experience and leadership should be a great asset to the club. Only four fixtures have second division clubs paired against each other. The rest must rely on playing off if they are to survive.

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Rugby Union

Australian

Racing

Critique's performance should guarantee him rave reviews

By Michael Phillips

Racing Correspondent

Henry Cecil can win the Cheltenham Festival for the first time in Newmarket today with that much improved three-year-old, Critique, who will be ridden by Lester Piggott. Confidence in Critique's ability to win this coveted prize stems partly from his own rude health—he's really well in himself and in top form for the present—and partly from his encouraging performance yesterday and partly from his latest performance on the racecourse.

That was revealed at the end of last month at Ascot where he won the Cumberland Lodge Stakes. By beating Finglas Cave by two and a half lengths, Critique provided irrefutable evidence that Cecil has coaxed him back into the sort of form he showed at this juncture last year when he was beaten only a short head by the subsequent French 2,000 Guineas winner, Regalation, in the Grand Critérium.

And it was in the Grand Critérium that Cecil's horse was at his best. It was there that he finished third to Shergar and Mafeking, but it was there that he was at his best. It was there that he was at his best. It was there that he was at his best.

No matter what happens this will be Master Willie's swan song. He leaves soon to take up residence in the United States at Windfields Farm alongside The Minstrel.

Like Master Willie, Critique is also destined for the United States, only she is likely to retire to stud. At their best, Calen Rouge and Master Willie are almost inseparable. They have been together for three quarters of a length in front of Master Willie in the Benson and Hedges Gold Cup.

French opinion is divided between The Wonder and Vayrac as to which of the four is their first string. The distance of today's race is undoubtedly ideal for The Wonder, but I have a sneaking suspicion that Vayrac, whose sire, Brigadier General, was the last horse to win this race twice.

With 30 standing their ground for the Tour de France, it is necessary to draw the line somewhere. Mr. Cecil's horse, Critique, is a proven winner. He is out of a sprinting mare, who is out of a sprinting mare, who is out of a sprinting mare.



Splendid isolation: Wind and Wuthering comes home alone

Wind and Wuthering reaches the heights

By Michael Seely

Racing Correspondent

Wind and Wuthering became the widest margin winner of the Dewhurst Stakes, sponsored by William Hill, in recent memory when beating Sea My Nave by seven lengths at Newmarket yesterday. Racing with tremendous zest, Wind and Wuthering made every yard of the running and drew right away in the closing stages.

Phillip Waldron, in his last year as retained jockey for the winning trainer, Henry Cecil, said: "He just loved it out there in front. He enjoyed every moment."

Simply Great and Raconteur, the two favorites, were struggling at the bushes and finished seventh and eighth, respectively.

Wind and Wuthering had shown that he was back to the form of the two-year-old muller, a muscle and was lame after running so disappointingly in the Coventry Stakes at Royal Ascot. He then became scared up and it has taken some time for him to return to his peak.

As always happens when an outsider wins a race of this type the bookmakers disregard the result. But the 20/1 offered by Ladbrokes against Wind and Wuthering for a win in the Dewhurst Stakes was remarkably generous. What every one always forgets is that you can-

not dismiss the form of group one races, as the winner is the best horse on the day. Two-year-olds like Sandhurst Prince and Paradis Terrestre may turn out to be better three-year-olds but they have yet to prove it.

This result also provided food for thought to those who lay out such astronomical sums for the top-priced yearlings. Wind and Wuthering cost 10,500 guineas, Sandhurst Prince 16,000 guineas and Paradis Terrestre 15,000 guineas in the United States. Yet arguably these are the three best two-year-olds in the country.

The first running of the £10,000 Royal Ascot Stakes, an immense success and there is no doubt that it will soon become a listed race. Victory went to Top Hope, Bob Woodward's colt, who was sent to the top of Port Ahoj, ridden by Walter Swinburn. Top Hope sprinted clear of Last Reacher and Vadrouille in the last 100 yards.

Chance for Lancashire? The Prix du Conseil de Paris is a consolation race for horses who did not live up to expectations in the Arc de Triomphe, Desmond Scales, who was the favorite, has my selection Lancashire who, back to his best, should be capable of making the Longchamps mile from the consistent gelding, Kelbomeer, and Staphorace. Lancashire has had a fair season with a win in the Prix de la Forêt and places in several other top European events.

Newmarket programme

(Television (ITV): 1.45, 2.25 and 3.00)

1.45 FLUORACARBON HANDICAP (Apprentices: £2,947; 11m)
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2.25 CHAMPION STAKES (Group 1; £66,732; 11m)
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3.00 CASCADIAN HANDICAP (£27,615; 21m)
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3.30 CASCADIAN HANDICAP (£27,615; 21m)
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4.00 CASCADIAN HANDICAP (£27,615; 21m)
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4.30 CASCADIAN HANDICAP (£27,615; 21m)
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4.50 CASCADIAN HANDICAP (£27,615; 21m)
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1.30 PANAMA CIGAR HANDICAP (Qualifier: 4-y-o; £1,892; 2m)
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2.00 TITRIS CENTENARY HURDLE (£3,895; 2m)
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2.40 CASCADIAN RECORDS CHASE (Handicap: £4,705; 3m)
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3.10 SNAILWELL STAKES (Div I: 2-y-o maidens: £2,932; 6f)
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3.40 SNAILWELL STAKES (Div II: 2-y-o maidens: £2,932; 6f)
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4.10 SNAILWELL STAKES (Div III: 2-y-o maidens: £2,932; 6f)
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4.40 SNAILWELL STAKES (Div IV: 2-y-o maidens: £2,932; 6f)
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4.70 SNAILWELL STAKES (Div V: 2-y-o maidens: £2,932; 6f)
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Kempton Park NH

(Television (ITV): 1.30, 2.0 and 2.40)

1.30 PANAMA CIGAR HANDICAP (Qualifier: 4-y-o; £1,892; 2m)
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2.00 TITRIS CENTENARY HURDLE (£3,895; 2m)
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2.40 CASCADIAN RECORDS CHASE (Handicap: £4,705; 3m)
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3.10 SNAILWELL STAKES (Div I: 2-y-o maidens: £2,932; 6f)
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3.40 SNAILWELL STAKES (Div II: 2-y-o maidens: £2,932; 6f)
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4.10 SNAILWELL STAKES (Div III: 2-y-o maidens: £2,932; 6f)
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4.40 SNAILWELL STAKES (Div IV: 2-y-o maidens: £2,932; 6f)
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4.70 SNAILWELL STAKES (Div V: 2-y-o maidens: £2,932; 6f)
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3.10 PERRY BOAT CHASE (Handicap: £2,015; 2m)

Television and radio: Saturday and Sunday

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

9.05 Better Badminton: Clear, drop and smash (tr). 9.30 Swan shop: The special guests are Edward Heath, David Bellamy and William Rushton. Also, another chance to play Lucky Numbers on the air. 12.27 Weather. 12.30 Grandstand: The line-up is... 12.35 Football Focus (with Bob Wilson). 1.05 International Boxing: from the Royal Albert Hall. 1.20 Racing: From Bangor-on-Dee, we see the 1.30, 2.00 and 2.30 races. 1.40 Profile: The future plans of the National Hunt champion jockey Jocky O'Neill, who broke his leg in an accident at Bangor-on-Dee a year ago. 2.10 Sports round-up. 2.40 Moto-Cross: last round of the British 500cc Championship, from Beaulieu Park. Competitors include 1978 world champion Graham Norton, 3.10 International Hockey: England versus West Germany, from Loftus Road, London. 3.45 Half-time scores and general sports round-up.

BBC 2

8.05 Open University: Mechanics. Examination: 8.30 Science Fiction: 12.15 Images and Information: 12.40 Where from Next? 1.05 Upper Clyde Shipbuilders: 1.30 The New Forest: 3.05 Saturday Cinema: Return to Paradise (1953). First of a two-part afternoon's two movies starting Gary Cooper. This is Mark Robson's film of chapters from the James A. Michener best-selling novel. It's a pretty and plodding tale set on a South Pacific island. Cooper is the visitor who clashes with a puritanical pastor and wades one of the islanders. Co-starring Barry Jones and Robert Haynes.

ITV/LONDON

8.35 Sesame Street with The Muppets. 9.35 Joe 90: Drama about a boy secret-agent. Today, he has to protect a President. 10.00 Clangers. Highlights from the latest film, including The French Lieutenant's Woman and the revised, longer, version of New York, New York. 10.30 Tivvies: Frantic fun for children. The guest is Barbara Woodhouse, trainer of animals and humans. 12.30 World of Sport: 12.35 On the Beat (World Cup round-up). 1.00 International athletics: The Sydney Games, from Australia. With Steve Oatis. 1.15 News. 1.20 The ITV Six: From Kempton, the 1.30, 2.00 and 2.40, and from Mowbray the 1.45, 2.25 and 3.00. Moto-Cross (the United International) from Hatfield, Essex, at 3.10. Half-time football results at 3.45.

Radio 4

8.30 News. 8.32 Farming Today. 8.50 Years Fairly. 9.00 News. 9.05 Weather. 9.10 Today's Papers. 9.15 On Your Farm. 9.20 Years Fairly. 9.30 It's a Bargain. 9.35 News. 9.40 Today's Papers. 9.45 Sport on 4. 9.50 Breakaway. 10.00 News. 10.05 Conference Special. 10.30 Daily Service. 11.00 Book of the Week. 11.35 From our own Correspondent. 12.00 News. 12.02 Money Box. 12.27 I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue.

Radio 3

12.55 Weather. 1.00 News. 1.10 Questions? 2.00 News. 2.05 Wildlife. 2.30 Play: A Small Desperation by Peter Jones. 3.00 Medicine Now. 3.30 Profile: Walter Goldsmith of the Institute of Directors. 3.50 Encore: William. 4.00 The Royal Tour of 1901: The Royal Tour made by King George V and Queen Mary. 4.30 Does He Take Sugar? 5.00 Going Solo (last in series) (6) "Gathering to the Market". 5.25 Week Ending. 5.55 Weather. 6.00 News. 6.15 Desert Island Discs. Castaway: Rupert Hughes. 6.30 The Week. 6.55 Stop The Week. 7.35 Baker's Dozen. 8.30 Play: "Zack" by Harold Brighouse. 9.55 Weather. 10.00 News. 10.15 Fiction Talk: "Street Talk". 11.15 Not the Hills of Home (A) "The Terrible Rough Trip" — the story of John MacDougal Stuart. 12.00 News and Weather. VHF: 3.30-4.30 Open University.

Radio 2

5.00 Tony Brandon. 7.30 David Jacobs. 9.30 Steve Jones' Open House. 11.00 The Kenny Everett Show. 1.00pm Punchline. 1.30 Sport.

Radio 1

5.00 As Radio 2 7.00 Playground 5.00 Tony Blackburn 10.00 Steve Wright 10.00 Adrian Jolly 2.00 A King in New York. 2.05 Paul Gambaccini. 4.00 Walter's Weekly. 5.00 Rock On. 6.30 In Concert. 7.30 Close.

World Service

BBC World Service can be heard in Western Europe on medium wave 648 kHz (468m) at the following times GMT. 6.00am Newsweek. 7.00 World News. 7.09 News about Britain. 7.15 From the World. 7.30 The French Minute. 7.45 News. 8.00 World News. 8.05 Reflections. 8.15 French Choice. 8.20 A Touch of Humour. 8.30 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 French News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Science in Action. 10.15 About Britain. 10.30 News. 10.35 The World. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 News. 11.25 The Week in Wales. 11.30 Murdoch. 12.00 French News. 12.05 News. 12.15 News. 12.25 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Commentary. 1.15 News. 1.20 Golden Treasury. 1.45 Bringing the Past in Life. 2.00 Saturday Special. 2.00 Radio News. 2.15 Saturday Special. 2.00 News. 4.00 News. 4.15 Saturday Special. 5.00 World News. 5.09 News. 5.15 From the Promenade. 5.20 News. 5.30 World News. 5.39 Commentary. 5.45 Good News. 5.55 The World. 6.00 People and Politics. 10.00 World News. 10.09 From our own Correspondent. 10.30 News. 10.40 World News. 10.45 Sports. 10.55 News. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Letterbox. 11.30 Murdoch. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 News. 12.25 Play of the Week. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Commentary. 2.15 News. 2.25 Good Books. 2.30 Sports review. 3.00 World News. 3.09 Commentary. 3.15 From our own Correspondent. 3.30 News. 3.45 Letterbox. 3.55 News. 4.00 News. 4.15 Letter from America.

3.55 Grandstand: continued. Rugby League: Warrington versus Fulham. The final round of the John Player Trophy. 4.35 Final Scores. 5.10 Kung Fu: Caine (David Carradine) is convicted of a theft he did not commit. Sent to work in a silver mine, he teaches the other prisoners how to cope with the dreadful conditions there. 6.00 News: with Jan Leeming. And weather. 6.10 Sports round-up. 6.15 Larry Grayson's Generation Game: Family couples join Mr Grayson and Isla St Clair in friendly rivalry. 7.10 Juliet Bravo: Police drama. A boy, just about to begin his O-level exams, walks out of his school and disappears. But seems that his disappearance had been carefully planned. 8.00 Mike Yarwood in Persons: And the "persons" include Basil Fawlty, Michael Hordley and Reginald Rosanquet. 8.30 Flamingo Road: A tragic accident after Skipper quarrels with his father.

4.30 Saturday Cinema: Sergeant York (1941). First-rate peace-and-war drama about the First World War hero, a farmer, who registers as a conscientious objector, changes his mind, goes out to fight the Germans and captures a lot of them. Also starring Walter Brennan and Joan Leslie. 6.40 Home Ground: Reporter Frank Merrin finds out why Chester Zoo aims to be the best zoo in the country. 7.10 News. And sports round-up. 7.25 The Gypsy Baron: German-made film of the Johann Strauss operetta. Ingredients include hidden treasure and secret marriages. Singers include Hans Kraemer and Siegfried Salem. Sung in German, with English subtitles.

4.00 World of Sport: Wrestling, from Nottingham. Three feuds — catchweight, lightweight and heavyweight. 4.50 Results of today's football and racing. 5.05 Metal Mickey: The robot takes Haley (Lucinda Bateson) to the finals of a contest, and even supplies her with her clothes. 5.30 The Pyramid Game: Fun with words. The star partners tonight are Dana Dors and Melvyn Hayes. 6.10 Game for a Laugh: The show in which members of the public are the stars as, consciously and otherwise, they do amusing things. 7.05 Punchline: Comedy game show. With Kenny Everett, John Widdell, Paul Tracy and John Cornhill among the guests. 7.40 Vegas: Crime thriller. A psychic investigator is called in after a child is kidnapped. 8.40 The Stanley Baxter Series: First in a new series of half-hour comedy sketch programmes (See choice).

9.00 Flamingo Road: continued. 9.20 News: with Jan Leeming. Also sports round-up. 9.35 Parkinson: His guests tonight are Dame Vera Lynn, Sir Douglas Bader, Windsor Davies and Kenneth Williams. 10.35 Match of the Day: Action from two of the day's Football League matches. Introduced by Jimmy Hill. 11.00 News. 11.15 News. 11.25 Sports round-up. 11.35 House Calls: American-made comedy series, set in a hospital. The sub-plots include one about the asymptomatic victim whose religious parents refuse to allow an operation to take place. And there's a loss of confidence by Charley (Wayne Rogers) after a bad day in the operating theatre. Ends at 12.00. Weather forecast follows.

9.05 Grand Prix Special: Live coverage from the Caesar's Palace Hotel in Las Vegas. The first-ever Las Vegas Grand Prix. It's a free event which will decide the World Drivers' Championship this year. Carlos Reutemann is ahead by one point. 10.30 News: with Jan Leeming. 10.35 Traker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy: Film episode. There is a traitor in British Intelligence and George Smiley (Alec Guinness) has been recalled to flush him out. Tonight, we learn who he is. 11.20 Cartoons: A selection from this year's animated films festival at Cambridge. 11.35 Film: The Criminal (1960). Powerful Joseph Losey drama about a racecourse robbery and what happens when the major who masterminds it and has turned the foot, ends up in prison. Starring Stanley Baker, Sam Wanamaker, Margit Sied. Ends at 1.15am.

9.15 News from ITN. 9.30 Film: Blume in Love (1973). Comedy, with George Segal as a doctor who is determined to win back his wife (Susan Anspach). There are, however, one or two obstacles in the way. He is having an affair (with Marsha Mason) and his ex-wife is living with a tough man (Kris Kristofferson). The film also stars Shelley Long and it was directed by Paul Mazursky who also wrote the screenplay. 11.40 Johnny Carson's Tonight Show: Chat and music. Already seen in the US. The guests are Candice Bergen and the magician Doug Henning. 12.35 Close: With Brian Rix.

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: BBC CYMRU/WALES 8.50-9.30am Crickwall. 9.10-1.15am Sports News Wales. Weather. Close. BBC 2 VARIATIONS: BBC CYMRU/WALES 8.50-9.30am Crickwall. 9.10-1.15am Sports News Wales. Weather. Close. BBC 1 VARIATIONS: BBC CYMRU/WALES 8.50-9.30am Crickwall. 9.10-1.15am Sports News Wales. Weather. Close. BBC 2 VARIATIONS: BBC CYMRU/WALES 8.50-9.30am Crickwall. 9.10-1.15am Sports News Wales. Weather. Close.

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Mike Yarwood as Bruce Forsyth: BBC 1, 8.00pm

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BBC 1

9.00 Mister Bann: for the very young. 9.15 Wake Up Sunday: Songs, stories, from Dana and the Brown Brothers. 9.35 Nat Zingdang Naya: Jive for Asian viewers. 10.05 A Primary Response: Film about four racially mixed London primary schools. 10.30 Disabled: Aspects of Physical Handicap: Residential care. 10.55 See Hear! For the hard of hearing. 11.20 Ensemble: French for beginners. Part 2. 11.45 What's Your Poison?: Brian Tuohy with facts for drinkers. 12.15 Day One: Religious news. With Sally Magnusson, Barry Lynch. 1.00 Farming. 1.25 Embroidery: Jan Benney and applique. 1.50 News headlines. 1.55 Film: Alexander the Great (1955). Better than average spectacular, with Richard Burton as the conqueror, Frederic March as his father.

BBC 2

8.05 Open University: Energy: Closing the Gap. 8.30 M101/Algebra. 8.55 Nothing but the News. 9.20 The New Foresters: Last in a series of films shot in the New Forest. Today, Dennis Skillicorn meets Jack Sibley, a retired mole exterminator from Ringwood, and Peter Martin, a gamekeeper on the Beaulieu estate. Although Mr Sibley has retired, his phone still rings and we see him giving a friend a helping hand to control moles. Mr Martin is a gamekeeper, but his job is also concerned with rearing game birds to be shot by sportsmen.

ITV/LONDON

9.05 The Goats: Film about the Army Worm that threatens crops in East Africa. 9.30 The Lost Islands: Marooned children are sentenced to death. (Tr). 10.00 Morning Worship: From United Reformed Church, New Malden, Surrey. 11.00 Getting On: For the non-longer young. 11.30 Shogun: adventure story for the youngsters. 12.00 Weekend World: The World's Poor. Project for Old Mexico. 12.30 Meeting: 1.00 Police 5: How to help Scotland Yard — and, perhaps, yourself. 1.15 Cartoons. 1.30 University Challenge: Undergraduates in a general knowledge quiz. 2.00 Rugby: friendly about the preparation of a club's first match. 2.30 The Big Match: Highlights from three of yesterday's League games. 3.30 The Muppet Show.

4.05 Bonanza: old American western series. 4.50 Mickey and Donald. 5.15 Roll a Hero! OK! Roll Hero! at Sir Francis Hill Middle School in Lincoln. 5.45 News: with Kenneth Kendall. 5.55 Great Expectations: Episode 3. Pig's sister has been attacked and is paralysed. Pig (Gerry Sunders) is determined to acquire some politeness. 6.25 Play It Safe! Jimmy Savile on the home dangers that children can be spared if parents are sensible. 6.35 Appeal: Michael Dean appeals on behalf of London Housing Aid Centre. 6.40 Songs of Praise: from West Bridgford. 7.15 To the Manor Born: The comedy series recommences. 7.45 Mastermind: The subjects: the Royal Shakespeare Company; Marie Antoinette, 18th Century History; and The Second Boer War. 8.15 Bergerac: New thriller series begins. It's set in Jersey and stars John Nettles as the detective whose friend has been killed.

3.50 Film: We're Not Dressing (1934). Cheerful musical, with Bing Crosby as a sailor and Carol Lombard as an heiress. Co-starring Ethel Merman, Burns and Allen. 5.00 Rugby Special: Midland Division v. Australians. 6.00 News Review: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing. 6.30 The Money Programme: The story of the collapse of the investment management group Norton Warburg. 7.15 The World About Us: Secret Harvesters. When field mice, foxes, hares, voles and birds also look for the good life. Made in Devon. 8.05 News: with Kenneth Kendall. 8.10 The Sidemont Invention: What happens when the international folklore festival comes to town in August.

4.00 Film: Harry Black and the Tiger (1958). Stewart Granger plays Black, a hunter in India. The tiger is a man-eater. Anthony Steel, Barbara Rush and J. S. Jhar co-star. Director: Hugo Freudenfeld. 6.00 Your Hundred Best: More requests from viewers. The choir include those from Ripon Cathedral, St Joseph's College and Mole's Preparatory School. With Ian Ogilvy. 6.30 News from ITN. 6.40 Devil's Advocate: Last in the series. Unemployed youngsters put questions to Bishop David Sheppard, and Archbishop Derek Worlock. Gus Macdonald oversees the studio encounter. 7.15 Film: Raid on Entebbe (1976). Reconstruction of the Israeli forces' rescue of hostages held by Amin's militia in 1976. Peter Finch (as Yitzhak Rabin), Charles Bronson, and Yaphet Kotto as Amin. Directed by Irvin Kershner.

9.10 Dallas: First in a new series. We find out whose body it was that was left floating in the swimming pool. 10.00 News: with Kenneth Kendall. And weather. 10.10 Rock Bottom: Everyman film about compulsive gambling and about the organization that helps them to cope with their addiction (see choice). 10.45 Barbara Mandrell: The singer and her singing sisters have, as their guests, Glen Campbell, Alabama, and the Kroffts Puppet Band. 11.25 The Self-Help Society: Film about three groups that have achieved greater control over their local housing in Los Angeles. 11.50 The Sky at Night: Interview with Sir Bernard Lovell.

9.10 Mussolini with Knickerbockers: Why the mother-in-law is such a... 9.35 Grand Slams: Bridge tournament: round two — Britain versus the United States. 10.00 The Borgias: Repeat of episode one. Rodrigo (Adolfo Celi) as Pope Sixtus IV. 10.55 Barbara Mandrell: The singer and her singing sisters have, as their guests, Glen Campbell, Alabama, and the Kroffts Puppet Band. 11.25 The Self-Help Society: Film about three groups that have achieved greater control over their local housing in Los Angeles. 11.50 The Sky at Night: Interview with Sir Bernard Lovell.

9.00 Film: Raid on Entebbe (continued). 9.40 Pig in the Middle: Last episode in the comedy series. Barry (Terence Rattigan) is back out of his house. Susan (Joanna Van Gyseghem) so he seeks refuge with Andy (John Quayle). 10.15 News from ITN. 10.25 Winston Churchill — The Wilderness Years: Tonight's episode covers the period February 1937 — September 1938. Not even the invasion of Czechoslovakia has failed to alter Chamberlain's pacifist thinking. He flies to Munich to meet Hitler. Churchill (Robert Hardy) says: Chamberlain had the choice between war and shame. How he has chosen shame — he'll get war later. 11.25 The Palace Presents: Variety show, with Jack Jones and pianist-composer Henry Mancini. 12.25 Close: With Brian Rix.

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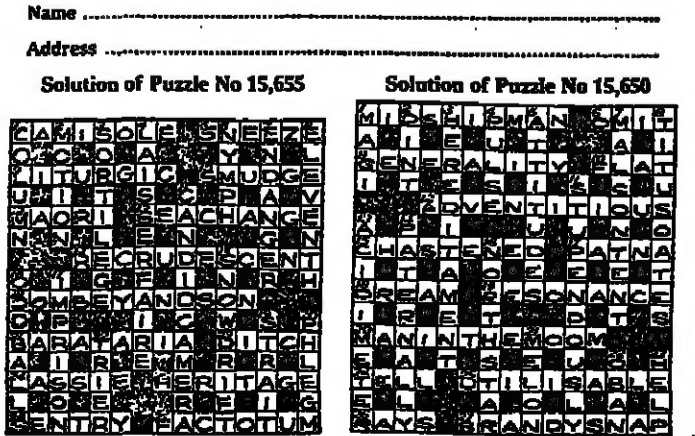


Cornwell is 50 on Monday. He is as reticent as Mr George Smiley about his new book, though the gossip is that Smiley himself does not appear in it. He is just back from Germany and the Middle East, where he was engaged in "research", as we call it in the Circus. Happy birthday, in code and over the scrambler, secret master of spies and moral ambiguity.

Philip Howard

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,656



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